

House Committee on Commerce, Labor and Economic Development
Hearing on HB 2455 Jan 23, 2020
Written only Testimony in Support of HB 2455
on behalf Serrato Corporation
by Cheryll Yowell, Chief Operations Officer
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The Honorable Sean Tarwater and Members of the Committee,

I would like to thank the members of the committee for your consideration of this important bill. I have worked within the Job Corps program for more than a decade, and this bill represents a groundbreaking move to ensure that Job Corps students are given the opportunity to demonstrate their competence and value to employers throughout the state of Kansas.

When passed, hopefully this bill will encourage other states to follow Kansas' lead.

We know that Job Corps, with its emphasis on Career and Technical Education gives students the academic, technical and employability skills needed for postsecondary and workplace success. A huge component of that is what we at Job Corps call work-based learning. This real-world "on the job training" helps students understand their academic classes, to apply learned technical skills, and gives them the chance to work as part of a team which is a crucial element of any career.

The passage of HB 2455 will give students access to this critical experience and provide them with the expertise necessary to help launch a successful career, which in turn helps our students on their pathway to becoming self-sufficient, contributing, independent citizens.