## ORDINANCE No. 184716

Amend the Business License Law to create non-refundable youth employment tax credit program dedicated to eligible local businesses that support career-related-learning experiences in City schools and a non-refundable tax program to employ foster youth. (Ordinance; add Code Sections 7.02.880-882)

The City of Portland ordains:

Section 1. The Council finds:

- 1. The City Council previously passed Resolution on April 6, 2011, directing the staff of the Portland Revenue Bureau to draft language creating a business license tax credit involving businesses that support career–related-learning experiences in City schools and who employ foster youth.
- 2. A key component of the new Oregon Diploma requires Personalized Learning including that students participate in experiences that connect classroom learning with real life experiences in the workplace, community, and/or school relevant to their education plan and document progress toward their personal, career, and post high school goals.
- 3. Only 57 percent of Multnomah County high school students graduate on time.
- 4. Children in the foster care system are at risk for attaining lower education levels, higher rates of teen pregnancy, lower rates of employment and increased involvement with the criminal justice system than their peers.
- 5. In a recent study of dropouts (Bridgeland, 2006), 47 percent of dropouts said a major factor in their decision to drop out was that classes were not interesting and 81 percent of these same respondents said that if schools provided opportunities for real-world learning it would have improved their chances of graduating from high school.
- 6. Employer estimate that 39 percent of recent high school graduates are unprepared for the expectations that they face in entry-level jobs and 45 percent of graduates are not adequately prepared for the skills and abilities they need to advance beyond entry level (Archive, 2005).
- 7. Employment rates for the nation's teens and young adults are at post-World War II lows.
- 8. National research points to the need for expanded employment and work-based learning opportunities for young people.
- 9. Business are uniquely poised to provide opportunities for students to meet the new diploma requirements by putting education into a relevant context by linking what is learned in school to the knowledge and skills that are needed in the workplace.
- 10. The City has a role in ensuring our young people have opportunities for tomorrow.

- 11. The City of Portland has a history of investing in young people through funding of recreational and after school activities, youth employment programs, and creating seasonal job training, work experience, internship and job shadow opportunities.
- 12. The City of Portland hopes to cultivate community involvement and participation from local businesses.
- 13. The City Council recognizes the success of our local businesses is intrinsically tied to the success of our schools, neighborhoods and students and that the current Code does not provide any youth employment credit.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Council directs:

a. Portland City Code Chapter 7.02 is amended as provided in Attachment A to this Ordinance.

Passed by the Council: JUL 06 2011

Mayor Sam Adams Prepared by: Terri Williams/Ken McGair Date Prepared: June 22, 2011

LaVonne Griffin-Valade

Auditor of the City of Portland By

Deputy

## Agenda No. 184716 ORDINANCE NO. Title

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880-882

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(for presentation, testimony and discussion)