JOHN WALSH
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

HB 4496

Concrete Technology
Alpena Community College (ACC) offers the nation's only Associate program in Concrete Technology, and is home to a 42,000 sq. ft. World Center for Concrete Technology. With existing curriculum, faculty, and capacity, ACC is a logical, efficient, and non-competitive choice to meet industry demand for graduates with a BS in Concrete Industry Management.

Maritime Studies
Northwestern Community College (NMC) operates one of only six state maritime academies in the country and the only one on freshwater. Housed in NMC's recently completed Great Lakes Campus, the program operates a 225 ft. training ship and boasts state-of-art radar and ship handling simulators. Like ACC, NMC currently has the curriculum, faculty, and existing capacity to meet what is expected to be a tripling in job demand by the maritime trade industry.

Energy Production Technology
Lake Michigan College (LMC) offers the only Associate's program in Michigan that focuses on Energy Production Technology, but the industry needs a workforce with technical skills in advance competencies such as Engineering Technology, Radiation Protection, Quality Assurance, Chemical Technology, and Management. LMC has the curriculum, faculty, and availability of industry standard equipment to meet this workforce need.

Culinary Arts
Community colleges operating culinary arts programs are facing greater demand in the food service industry for graduates with refined culinary skills together with knowledge of nutrition, dietetics, and food chemistry. With an expectation for greater proficiency on arrival, the food industry is providing less on-the-job training to graduates. A number of the most respected culinary schools in the nation have responded to this demand by adding a baccalaureate option for their students. Like ACC, LMC, and NMC, several community colleges in Michigan have invested significantly in their culinary infrastructure, and therefore possess the capacity, curriculum and faculty to address this demand through an efficient, non-competitive use of existing state resources.

Nursing
The rationale for this program is based on demand and access, rather than the unique nature of the program. According to statistics from Michigan's Department of Community Health, there is a projected shortage of 18,000 nurses by 2015. The demand is overwhelming our collective ability to respond. Waiting lists are not the exception. The situation is worsened by a lack of access for RNs with an ADN seeking a BSN. Geographic limitations effectively prohibit an RN/ADN from completing a BSN in many rural areas. Even in urban areas, transfer programs are simply not accepting transfer students. Some, like U of M- Ann Arbor, have discontinued their transfer program in its entirety. In addition, employees and organizations like the Michigan Organization of Nursing Executives, are calling for the BSN as the minimum degree for an RN. Failure to heed that call may result in an even greater shortage in the future.

Many community colleges have existing curriculum, faculty and capacity to assist with this demand.

MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JOHN J. WALSH

SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

Dear Colleague,

I hope you will join with me and numerous organizations and support HB 4496. This bill would permit, but not require, certain community colleges to offer a baccalaureate degree in maritime technology, concrete technology, culinary arts, energy production technology and a bachelor of science in nursing. The community college baccalaureate proposal is predicated on access and affordability to higher education for Michigan's citizens and would put us in line with 21 other states that are already using defined baccalaureate programs at community colleges to address demand in select areas. It would use existing community college infrastructure, facilities, faculty and programming as to avoid duplication at the University level. Additionally, it would enable our state's community colleges to respond to the demand from growing industries and the need in areas of the state that are underserved by Michigan's current higher education system. Michigan's employers would greatly benefit from this legislation as evidenced by the numerous organizations listed below that have endorsed this bill.

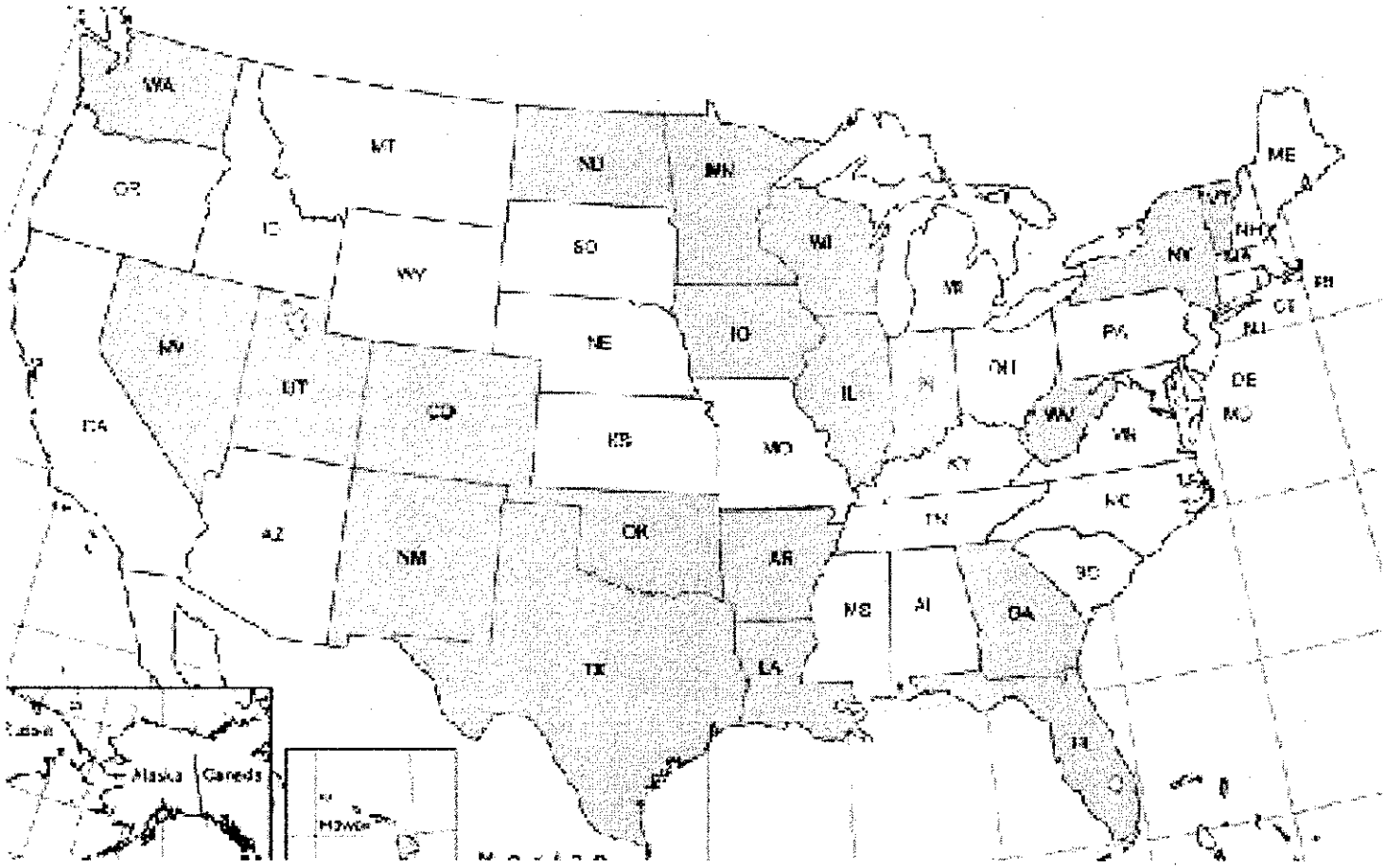
Organizations Supporting HB 4496

AEP/Indian Michigan Power – Cook Nuclear Plant
Allegiance Health, Jackson
Alpena Area Chamber of Commerce
Alpena Area Convention and Visitors Bureau
Alpena County Board of Commissioners
Alpha Omicron Omicron Chapter, Phi Theta Kappa
Black Star Farms, Traverse City
Bruce Byl, Northwestern Bank, Traverse City
Carson City Crystal Schools
Consumers Energy – Campbell Generating Facility
Cooke Sheet Metal, Kalkaska
Crawford County Commissioners
Crawford County Economic Development Partnership
D.C. Cook Nuclear Plant
Detroit Free Press
Detroit Medical Center

Detroit Workforce Development Department
District Health Department No. 4
DTE Energy - Technical Training Division
Economic Development Alliance of St. Clair County
Entergy Nuclear Operations, Inc. – Palisades Nuclear Plant
Gladwin Economic Development Corporation
Gogebic County Board of Commissioners
Gogebic County Economic Development Commission
Harrison Area Economic Development Corporation
Home Builder's Association of Holland
Jackson County Legal News
Jayne Mohr, Asst. Superintendent, Traverse City Public Schools
Kevin Oxley, Superintendent, Jackson County ISD
Lafarge North America Cement
Lakeland Health Care
Mercy Hospital, Grayling
Michigan Association of Counties
Michigan Health and Hospital Association
Michigan Northern Counties Association
Montcalm Human Service Coalition
Montcalm Area Intermediate School District
Montcalm Area Career Center
Mott Community College Society of Physical Therapy Assistants
Mott Community College Student Government Association
Mott Community College Student Nurses Association
Munson Medical Center, Traverse City
Northeast Michigan Council of Governments
Paul Maurer General Contracting, Traverse City
Petoskey News-Review
Port Huron Times-Herald
Roscommon County Commissioners
Southern Wayne County Chamber of Commerce
St. Clair County Regional Educational Service Agency
Target Alpena Development Corporation
The Daily Globe, Ironwood
Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce
Traverse City Record-Eagle
United Way of Jackson County
West Branch Regional Medical Center
Women's Action Network of Greenville

MAXIMIZING COMMUNITY COLLEGE INFRASTRUCTURE

States that Allow Community Colleges to Confer Baccalaureate Degrees



Source: Community College Baccalaureate Association (2011). Available at: http://www.accbd.org/resources/baccalaureate-conferring-locations/?ct=US