

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 4, 2025

The Honorable Lori Chavez-DeRemer
Secretary
U.S. Department of Labor
200 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20210

Dear Secretary Chavez-DeRemer,

We write with grave and urgent concern about the U.S. Department of Labor's (USDOL) abrupt cancellation and closure of 99 contractor-operated Job Corps training centers nationwide. This May 29, 2025, announcement included an order to remove all students from campus by June 6 and complete staff terminations by June 30.

We urge the administration to immediately reverse course. This is a callous and dangerous decision that has thrown the lives of about 25,000 young Americans into chaos, particularly for residential students who have only days to locate new housing, health care support, and career pathways.

Oregon is home to six Job Corps centers, three of which are operated under USDOL contracts and now face immediate closure. In addition to educating students in the trades, these centers provide essential wraparound services to students who often lack stable housing and access to health care and have struggled in traditional education.

The dangers of failing to act are not abstract. Tongue Point Job Corps in coastal Astoria, Oregon houses the country's sole Job Corps maritime training program. USDOL's timeline has sparked a cascading crisis at this center. Staff at its onsite health center are attempting to transfer student medical care and prescriptions to alternate providers, but they lack a reliable timeline or federal guidance. Staff who live onsite are waiting to learn how long they will be permitted to stay in on-campus housing. Many students moved thousands of miles from their home states for the maritime program; others have no homes to which they can return. Others might have homes of record, but they do not have a safe and supportive living environment there. Local emergency housing shelters are doing their best to prepare to house dozens of youth, but these shelters will be rapidly overwhelmed.


We cannot overstate the dangerous consequences of following through with these cancellations, especially in the absence of a comprehensive transition plan. USDOL's current course risks inflicting serious and irreparable harm on vulnerable young people who placed their trust in the federal government to keep them safe. The US Department of Labor must act swiftly to end this disruption and instead focus on student safety.


We stand ready to work with you to strengthen Job Corps and expand access to high-quality training programs, but we vehemently oppose closing these important career pathways. We owe it to the young people in our communities, and across the country, to protect their rights to

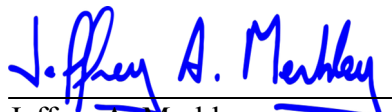
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education, safety, and equal opportunity. Thank you for your timely and thorough response to this request.


Sincerely,



Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress

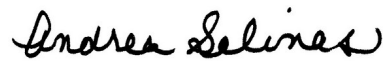

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