

May 16, 2017

The Honorable Virginia Foxx, Chairman  
Committee on Education and the Workforce  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Bobby Scott, Ranking Member  
Committee on Education and the Workforce  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Lamar Alexander, Chairman  
Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray, Ranking Member  
Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Foxx and Ranking Member Scott and Chairman Alexander and Ranking Member Murray:

We, the undersigned businesses and organizations, support reauthorization of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act that will help Americans develop the skills they need to compete for high-skilled, in-demand jobs.

In 2016, the House of Representatives passed “the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act.” That legislation was a bipartisan effort that would have helped our nation’s students acquire the skills needed to be successful in today’s work environment. While the legislation had overwhelming support, passing the House of Representatives by a vote of 405-5, it did not receive Senate consideration.

Employers are reporting a shortage of skilled workers to fill in-demand positions. Modernized and relevant career and technical education (CTE) programs, designed with the input of employers and responsive to the needs identified by labor market data, are central to overcoming this skills gap.

CTE is an effective tool for improving student outcomes and helps prepare both secondary and postsecondary students with the necessary academic, technical and employability skills required to be successful in the workforce. CTE prepares students both for college and careers and is critical to meeting the needs of this new 21st century economy.

New legislation should focus on areas where improvements can be made to current law, such as:

- Align CTE programs to the needs of the regional, state, and local labor market;
- Support effective and meaningful collaboration between secondary and postsecondary

institutions and employers;

- Increase student participation in work-based learning opportunities; and
- Promote the use of industry recognized credentials and other recognized postsecondary credentials.

These improvements will more effectively spend federal dollars to help our nation's students acquire the skills that they need and employers are demanding. We urge you to move forward with reauthorization of Perkins Career and Technical Education based on the broadly supported legislation from 2016 and appreciate the ongoing, bipartisan commitment to invest in our nation's students, workers and economy through the Perkins CTE program.

Sincerely,

Abbott  
Accelerated Achievements LLC  
AccuRounds  
ACT, Inc.  
Action Manufacturing Company, Inc.  
Afterschool Alliance  
AIMS360  
Air Conditioning Contractors of America (ACCA)  
Air Handling Systems, Inc.  
Air-conditioning, Heating and Refrigeration Institute  
AK Steel Corporation  
Alaska Chamber  
Allegheny Conference on Community Development  
ALLETE / Minnesota Power  
Alloy Engineering Co., Inc.  
American Architectural Manufacturers Association  
American Axle & Manufacturing  
American Composites Manufacturers Association  
American Counseling Association  
American Farm Bureau Federation  
American Federation of Teachers  
American Society of Employers  
American Supply Association  
American Welding Society  
American Wire Producers Association  
AMT - The Association For Manufacturing Technology  
Arizona Chamber of Commerce & Industry  
Arizona Manufacturers Council  
Arizona Technology Council  
Associated Equipment Distributors  
Associated General Contractors  
Associated Industries of Arkansas  
Associated Industries of Massachusetts

Association for Talent Development  
Association of Washington Business  
Association of Woodworking & Furnishings Suppliers (AWFS)  
Augustus F. Hawkins Foundation  
Austin Community College District  
Automation Federation  
Banner Metals Group, Inc.  
BASF Corporation  
Baton Rouge Area Chamber  
Battelle Memorial Institute  
Baumueller - Nuermont Corp  
Blackman Middle School  
Blue Ocean Systems  
The Boeing Company  
Bosch  
Boson Software, LLC  
Boys & Girls Clubs of Rutherford County  
Bridgeport Fittings, Inc.  
Bridgestone North American Manufacturing Education Center  
BSA | The Software Alliance  
Business Council of Alabama  
The Business Council of New York State, Inc.  
The Business Council of Westchester  
CA Technologies  
Cameron Manufacturing & Design  
Capital Region Chamber  
Career & Technical Association of Texas  
Carter-McGowan Services, LLC  
The Chamber of Commerce for Greater Philadelphia  
Chemung County Chamber of Commerce  
Code.org  
CodeHS  
Cognizant Technology Solutions  
Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL)  
Colonial Circuits, Inc.  
Comer & Company  
Committee for Children  
Communities in Schools of Mid America, Inc.  
Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque  
Community Health Charities  
Composite Panel Association  
CompTIA  
CONNSTEP Inc.  
Consumer Specialty Products Association  
Council of Industry of Southeastern New York

Dallas Regional Chamber  
DeLaSalle Education Center  
Deloitte LLP  
Delta Systems, Inc.  
Emerson  
Family, Career and Community Leaders of America  
Farm Flavor Media  
Flowing Wells Unified School District  
Forging Industry Association  
Fort Wayne Metals Research Products  
The French Oil Mill Machinery Co.  
Fremont Interiors, Inc  
Future Business Leaders of America-Phi Beta Lambda, Inc. (FBLA-PBL)  
General and Automotive Machine Shop, Inc.  
Genesys Works  
Georgia Association of Manufacturers  
Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education  
Gerdau Long Steel North America  
Giant Steps of St. Louis  
Global Chain Alliance  
Global Cold Chain Alliance  
Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Baltimore Committee  
Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Dubuque Development Corporation  
Greater Houston Partnership/UpSkill Houston  
Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce  
Gruber Systems, Inc.  
Hardwood Federation  
Harrisburg Regional Chamber & CREDC  
HealthCode  
Heating, Air-conditioning & Refrigeration Distributors International (HARDI)  
Hi-Lex Controls, Inc.  
Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities  
Houston Independent School District  
IBM  
INDA, The Association of the Nonwoven Fabrics Industry  
Independent Electrical Contractors  
Industrial Fasteners Institute  
Industrial Minerals Association - North America  
Industrial Tool Die & Engineering, Inc.  
Information Technology Industry Council (ITI)  
Ingersoll-Rand  
Institute of Makers of Explosives

Intel Corporation  
Interlocking Concrete Pavement Institute  
International Paper  
International Sign Association  
International Technology and Engineering Educators Association-ITEEA  
Investment Casting Institute  
Iowa Association of Business and Industry  
Iowa Department of Education  
IPC - Association Connecting Electronics Industries  
Jackson Area Manufacturers Association  
Jamison Door Company  
Jones College of Business, Middle Tennessee State University  
Junior Achievement of Oklahoma  
Kentucky Chamber of Commerce  
Knoxville Chamber  
Kopy King  
Lake Champlain Regional Chamber of Commerce  
Laredo Chamber of Commerce  
Leading Builders of America  
Longview TX Chamber of Commerce  
Louisiana Association of Business and Industry  
Lovejoy Chaplet Corp.  
The Lucille and Edward R. Roybal Foundation  
Magnet Schools of America  
MAHLE Filter Systems  
Manufacturing Skill Standards Council  
Marlin Steel Wire Products LLC  
Maryland Business Roundtable for Education  
Massachusetts Business Alliance for Education  
Massachusetts Business Roundtable  
Metal Powder Industries Federation  
Metals Service Center Institute  
Metro Atlanta Chamber  
MetroHartford Alliance  
MGK  
Michigan Manufacturers Association  
Mid-South Livestock Center, LLC  
Miles Fiberglass & Composites Inc.  
Minnesota Precision Manufacturing Association  
Mississippi Manufacturers Association  
Montana Chamber of Commerce  
Montana Manufacturing Association  
Motor & Equipment Manufacturers Association  
Motorola Solutions, Inc.  
NAACP

National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity (NAPE)  
National Association for College Admission Counseling  
National Association of Manufacturers (NAM)  
National Association of Secondary School Principals  
National Association of State Directors of Special Education (NASDSE)  
National Association of Trailer Manufacturers  
National Cart Co., Inc.  
National Center for College and Career Transitions  
National Center for Technological Literacy at the Museum of Science, Boston  
National Concrete Masonry Association  
National Council for Advanced Manufacturing  
The National Council for Workforce Education  
National Council of Teachers of Mathematics  
National FFA Organization  
National Occupational Competency Testing Institute (NOCTI)  
National Retail Federation  
National Roofing Contractors Association  
National Science Education Leadership Association  
National Skills Coalition  
National Waste and Recycling Association  
National Wood Flooring Association  
Nebraska Chamber of Commerce & Industry  
Nevada Manufacturers Association  
Nevada System of Higher Education, Vice Chancellor for Workforce Development  
New England Council  
New Jersey Business & Industry Association  
New Mexico Business Coalition  
Nocti Business Solutions  
North American Technician Excellence  
Northampton Community College  
Northeast PA Manufacturers & Employers Association  
NPES The Association for Suppliers of Printing, Publishing and Converting Technologies  
Opportunity America  
Opportunity Nation  
Oracle  
Partnership for Air Conditioning, Heating, Refrigeration Accreditation  
Partnership for New York City  
Peirce College  
Philadelphia Technician Training Institute  
The Plastics Industry Association  
Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors--National Association  
PMMI The Association for Packaging and Processing Technologies  
Polyisocyanurate Insulation Manufacturers Association  
Port Townsend Paper Corporation  
Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute

Profit Miners, Inc.  
Project Lead The Way  
Quality Float Works, Inc.  
Rayonier Advanced Materials  
READY Nationwide  
Red Bud Industries, Inc.  
Regal Beloit Corporation  
Rhode Island Manufacturing Association  
River City High School  
Roaring Spring Blank Book Co.  
RoMan Manufacturing, Inc.  
Rutherford County Chamber of Commerce  
Rutherford County Schools  
San Francisco Chamber of Commerce  
Semiconductor Equipment and Materials International (SEMI)  
Shipbuilders Council of America  
Siegel High School  
Silicon Valley Leadership Group  
The Silicon Valley Organization  
SkillSmart, Inc.  
The Society for Maintenance & Reliability Professionals (SMRP)  
Society of Women Engineers  
Software & Information Industry Association  
South Carolina Chamber of Commerce  
Southern Arizona Manufacturing Partners  
Specialty Equipment Market Association  
SPT Consulting LLC  
Subaru of Indiana Automotive, Inc.  
Superior Graphite Company  
TechNet  
Technology Association of Iowa Educational Foundation  
Technology Association of Louisville Kentucky  
Technology Student Association  
Tennessee Chamber of Commerce & Industry  
Tennessee FFA Foundation, Inc.  
Tennessee Manufacturers Association  
Texas Association of Business  
Texas Association of Manufacturers  
Third Way  
Toyota Motor North America  
Unex Manufacturing, Inc.  
Union Roofing Contractors Association  
United Way of Central Iowa  
United Way of Greater Houston  
United Way of Southern Cameron County

United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona  
United Ways of Texas  
Univision  
Uniweld Products, Inc.  
U.S. Chamber of Commerce  
US Medical IT  
Vermont Chamber of Commerce  
Vermont Technology Alliance  
Vernier Software & Technology, LLC  
Virginia Manufacturers Association  
Volvo Group North America  
Walker Machinery Company  
Wearwell, Inc.  
West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education  
Whayne Supply Company  
WilliamsRDM  
Wood Component Manufacturers Association (WCMA)  
Wood Machinery Manufacturers of America  
Woodwork Career Alliance  
Xerox Corporation  
Young Invincibles  
Zero Zone, Inc.