

July 7th, 2016

Dear Chairman Kline and Ranking Member Scott,

We, the undersigned businesses and organizations, support the bipartisan H.R. 5587, *The Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act*, sponsored by Representatives G.T. Thompson (R-PA) and Katherine Clark (D-MA). We urge you to move swiftly toward passage of this important legislation.

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. Indeed, CTE prepares students both for college and careers.

The legislation focuses on areas where improvements can be made to current law, building upon its past successes and enhancing aspects of the Perkins CTE Act, which will help to better serve both workers and employers. H.R. 5587 will help:

- 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 post-secondary 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 H.R. 5587 and applaud the ongoing, bipartisan commitment to invest in our nation's students, workers, and economy through the Perkins CTE program.

Sincerely,

Aeronautical Repair Station Association
Afterschool Alliance
Air Conditioning Contractors of America
Alloy Engineering Co. Inc.
Alliance for Excellent Education
Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers
American Bakers Association
American Chemical Society
American Concrete Pressure Pipe Association
American Society of Employers
Arizona Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Arizona Technology Council
Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce / Associated Industries of Arkansas.
Association for Talent Development

Associated Equipment Distributors
Associated General Contractors
Associated Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors of Texas, Inc.
Augustus F. Hawkins Foundation
Austin Chamber of Commerce
Baton Rouge Area Chamber
The Boeing Company
Buffalo Niagara Partnership
Business Roundtable
Business Council of Alabama
The Business Council of New York State.
Business Council of Westchester
CA Technologies
California Business Roundtable
Camp Fire Central Texas
Ceco Door
CEO Council for Growth
Center for Employment Training
Change the Equation
Chemcut Corporation
Citizen Schools
Civic Enterprises
Colorado Business Roundtable
Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque
Community Health Charities, Inc.
CompTIA
Connecticut Business & Industry Association
Council of Industry of Southeastern New York
Cristo Rey Kansas City
Dallas County Community College District
Dallas Regional Chamber
Delaware Business Roundtable
Deloitte, LLP
Delta Systems Inc
DeLaSalle Education Center
Durham Technical Community College
Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce
Dutchess County Workforce Investment Board
Emerson
Forging Industry Association
G&D Integrated
General & Automotive Machine Shop, Inc.
General Motors
Georgia Association of Manufacturers
Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education
Giant Steps of St. Louis
Global Cold Chain Alliance
The Greater Baltimore Committee
Greater Durham Chamber of Commerce
Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce
Greater North Dakota Chamber of Commerce

Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce
Greater Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce
Greno Industries
HealthCode
Heart of Florida United
Honda North America, Inc.
Houston Independent School District
IBM Corporation
Iowa Association of Business and Industry
Independent Electrical Contractors
Industrial Minerals Association – North America
Information Technology Industry Council (ITI)
Intel Corporation
International Dairy Foods Association
International Paper
International Sign Association
Jackson Chamber
Jackson State Community College
Junior Achievement of Oklahoma
Lake Champlain Regional Chamber of Commerce
Lubbock-Cooper ISD
Louisiana Association of Business and Industry
Louisiana Committee of 100 for Economic Development
Magnet Schools of America
Manufacturers Association of Florida
Manufacturing Skill Standards Council
Marlin Steel
Maryland Business Roundtable for Education
Massachusetts Business Alliance for Education
Massachusetts Business Roundtable
MetroHartford Alliance
Microsoft
Michigan Manufacturers Association
Missouri Association of Manufacturers
Montana Chamber of Commerce
Montana Manufacturing Association
Motor & Equipment Manufacturers Association
National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity (NAPE)
National Association of Graduate-Professional Students
National Association of Manufacturers
National Association of State Student Grant and Aid Programs (NASSGAP)
National Association of Trailer Manufacturers
National Center for Technological Literacy at the Museum of Science, Boston
National Coalition of Certification Centers (NC3)
National Council for Advanced Manufacturing
National Retail Federation
National Roofing Contractors Association
National Science Education Leadership Association
National Skills Coalition
Nevada Manufacturers Association
New Hampshire High Technology Council

New Jersey Business & Industry Association
New Jersey Chamber of Commerce
New Mexico Business Roundtable
North Carolina Institute of Minority Economic Development
North Carolina Technology Association
NPES The Association for Suppliers of Printing, Publishing, and Converting Technologies
NY Tech Alliance
Ohio Business Roundtable
Oklahoma Business Roundtable
Opportunity America
Opportunity Nation
Oracle
Oregon Business Council
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Partnership for New York City
Partnership of Air Conditioning ,Heating & Refrigeration Accreditation(PAHRA)
PeopleFund
Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors—National Association
Port Townsend Paper Corporation
Poughkeepsie Alliance
Quality Float Works, Inc.
Rayonier Advanced Materials
The Research & Development Council of New Jersey
Rhode Island Manufacturers Association
Roaring Spring Blank Book Co.
RoMan Manufacturing Inc.
San Antonio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
San Jose Silicon Valley Chamber of Commerce
Silicon Valley Leadership Group
Society of Chemical Manufacturers and Affiliates
South Carolina Council on Competitiveness
Specialty Equipment Market Association (SEMA)
Symantec Corporation
State University of New York
STEM Education Coalition
TechNet
Tech Council of Maryland
Technology Association of Louisville Kentucky
Texas Association of Manufacturers
Texas Business Leadership Council
Thermcraft, Inc
Thermo Fisher Scientific/Fisher Science Education
Third Way
Toyota Motor North America, Inc.
United Way of New York State
Valley Industrial Association
Vermont Chamber of Commerce
Vermont Technology Alliance
Vernier Software & Technology
West Virginia Community and Technical College System
Woodwork Career Alliance of North America

Xerox Corporation
YWCA Greater Austin
YMCA OF THE USA