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## CHAIR Chuck Robbins *Cisco*

CHAIR, EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE COMMITTEE Scott Kirby United Airlines

**C E O** Joshua Bolten *Business Roundtable*  April 8, 2024

Dear Representative,

On behalf of the CEO members of Business Roundtable, I urge you to vote for H.R. 6655, A Stronger Workforce for America Act, which would modernize the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). Improving how the federal government invests in workforce development will better prepare U.S. workers for in-demand careers; enable businesses to more readily fill the nearly nine million open jobs with skilled workers; and advance recent federal investments in industries key to strengthening U.S. economic growth and competitiveness.

The public workforce development system is not keeping up with the economy. The system is inefficient, ineffective and too cumbersome to use at scale. Too few Americans — particularly those with employment barriers — can access needed training, and too few businesses utilize the system as a solution to evolving workforce needs.

A Stronger Workforce for America Act would help address these shortcomings. For example, it would dedicate no less than 50% of WIOA adult and dislocated worker funding toward upskilling workers through individual training accounts, on-the-job learning and other industry-led training. The bill would promote employer-driven training programs that equip workers with the skills for fulfilling careers. Through increased flexibility, it would empower states to structure workforce systems that meet their needs. These important reforms would enable business leaders to work with public and private stakeholders at the state, regional, and local levels to benefit workers and communities and drive economic growth.

Business Roundtable urges you to support A Stronger Workforce for America Act. Congress can create a workforce development system that expands opportunity for all and helps American workers tackle the challenges of today and tomorrow. We remain committed to working with you to build this ever-ready U.S. workforce.

Sincerely,

Scott Kirby Chief Executive Officer, United Airlines Chair, Education and Workforce Committee, Business Roundtable