

January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Dear Member of Congress,

We, the undersigned businesses and organizations, urge you to move forward with reauthorization of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act (Perkins). Employers are reporting a shortage of skilled workers to fill in-demand positions. Career and technical education (CTE) programs, throughout the country, 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 for successful entry into the workforce. Indeed, CTE prepares students both for college and careers.

Reauthorizing the Perkins Act is critical for the continued economic prosperity of the United States and ensures the country remain a leader in global competitiveness. As Congress sets out on this task, we urge you and your colleagues to focus on areas where improvements can be made to current law, building upon its past successes and enhancing aspects of the Perkins Act, which will help to better serve both workers and employers. A reauthorized version of Perkins should:

- 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 experiential learning opportunities such as industry internships, apprenticeships and mentorships; and
- Promote the use of industry-recognized 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 this important work and applaud Congress' ongoing, bipartisan commitment to invest in our nation's students, workers, and economy.

Sincerely,

100 Black Men of America, Inc.  
AASA, the School Superintendents Association  
ACE Clearwater  
ACT, Inc.  
Adirondack Regional Chamber of Commerce  
Aeronautical Repair Station Association  
AHRI  
Alabama Automotive Manufacturers Association  
Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education  
Alabama Technology Network  
Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers  
Allegheny Conference on Community Development  
Alloy Engineering Co. Inc.  
AMD, Inc  
American Architectural Manufacturers Association

American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education  
American Bakers Association  
American Composites Manufacturers Association  
American Federation of Teachers  
American Foundry Society  
American Society for Engineering Education  
American Society of Employers  
American Welding Society  
AMT - The Association For Manufacturing Technology  
Application Developers Alliance  
Applied Materials, Inc  
Archer Daniels Midland Company  
Arizona Chamber of Commerce and Industry  
Arizona Technology Council  
Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce / Associated Industries of Arkansas  
Arrow Gear Company  
Associated Equipment Distributors  
Associated General Contractors  
Association for Career and Technical Education  
Association for Manufacturing Excellence  
Association for Talent Development  
Association of Global Automakers  
Association of Washington Business  
AT&F Co.  
Augustus F. Hawkins Foundation  
Austin Affordable Housing Corp  
Austin Affordable Housing Corporation and Austin Pathways.  
Austin Chamber of Commerce  
Austin Free-Net  
Austin Pathways  
Austin Semiconductor  
Aviation Technician Education Council  
Banner Metals Group, Inc.  
Baton Rouge Area Chamber of Commerce  
Battelle  
Baut Studios, Inc  
Bentonville Casting Co., Inc.  
Bison Gear and Engineering  
Bixel Exchange  
Bloomington-Normal Economic Development Council  
BookSpring  
Bosch  
Bridgeport Fittings, Inc.  
Building Contractors Association of Westchester and Mid-Hudson Region, Inc.  
Business Council of Alabama  
California STEM Learning Network  
Cameron Manufacturing & Design, Inc.  
Capital Region (NY) Chamber.  
Career & Technology Association of Texas  
Carpenter District Council of St. Louis Missouri  
Caterpillar, Inc.

Center for Economic Growth  
Center for Employment Training  
Central Hudson Gas & Electric  
CEO Council for Growth  
Charlotte Chamber of Commerce  
Chemcut Corporation  
Chobani  
Citizen Schools  
Click Bond, Inc.  
Collaborative for Children  
Colonial Circuits Inc.  
Colorado Association of Commerce and Industry  
Colorado Business Roundtable  
Colorado Technology Association  
Colortech, Inc  
Committee of 100 for Economic Development, Inc. (Louisiana)  
Communities In Schools of Mid-America, Inc.  
CompTIA  
Connecticut Business & Industry Association  
Connecticut Technology Council  
Construction Industry Council of Westchester and Hudson Valley, Inc.  
Corning Area Chamber of Commerce  
Cortland County Chamber of Commerce  
Council of Industry of Southeastern New York  
CTE - Carpenters District Council of Greater St. Louis  
BookSpring  
Cyberways and Waterways  
Dallas Regional Chamber of Commerce  
Dell Inc.  
Deloitte, LLP  
Delta Systems  
Dept of Elementary & Secondary Educ - Pathways to Prosperity Kansas/Missouri Regional  
Council  
Duer/Carolina Coil Inc.  
Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce  
Dutchess County Workforce Investment Board  
Eaton  
EDGE  
Education Foundation of Harris County  
Elance-oDesk, Inc.  
Ellwood Group, Inc.  
Emerson  
EntreEd, The Consortium for Entrepreneurship Education  
EXACTO, INC. OF SOUTH BEND  
Flowing Wells School District  
Forging Industry Association  
Freescale  
Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce  
G&D Integrated  
General & Automotive Machine Shop, Inc.  
General Aviation Manufacturers Association

General Equipment and Supplies  
Genesee County Chamber of Commerce  
Genesys Works  
Georgia Association of Manufacturers  
Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education  
Girl Scouts of Central Texas  
Global Cold Chain Alliance  
GLOBALFOUNDRIES  
Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Dubuque Development Corporation  
Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce  
Greater North Dakota Chamber  
Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce  
Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce  
Greno Industries Inc.  
Guntert & Zimmerman  
Heart of Florida United Way  
Hewlett-Packard Company  
Hi-Lex  
Hillside Family of Agencies  
Honda North America, Inc.  
Houston Area Urban League  
Houston Area Urban League  
HR Policy Association  
Hudson Valley Gateway Chamber of Commerce  
i2E  
IBM  
Independent Electrical Contractors  
Independent Lubricant Manufacturers Association  
Indium Corporation  
Industrial Minerals Association - North America  
Information Technology Industry Council  
Ingersoll Rand  
Intel Corporation  
International Dairy Foods Association  
International Technology and Engineering Educators Association  
Investment Casting Institute  
Iowa Association of Business and Industry  
Iowa Business Council  
Iowa Governor's STEM Advisory Council  
Jackson Area Manufacturers Association  
Jimmy Doolittle Center  
J.P. Morgan Chase & Co.  
Jr. Achievement of Southern California  
Junior Achievement of Southern California  
KCnext - The Technology Council of Greater Kansas City  
Kentucky Association of Manufacturers  
Kentucky Chamber of Commerce  
Komatsu America

Kuhn North America, Inc.  
Lake Champlain Regional Chamber of Commerce  
Lord Corporation  
Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce  
Louisiana Association of Business & Industry  
Louisiana Committee of 100 for Economic Development, Inc.  
Lovejoy Chaplet Corp  
Lumity  
Madison-Kipp Corporation  
Magnet Schools of America  
Main Tape Company  
Manhattan Chamber of Commerce  
Manufacturers Association of Florida  
Manufacturing Skill Standards Council  
Marlin Steel  
Maryland Business Roundtable for Education  
Maryland Chamber of Commerce  
Massachusetts Business Alliance for Education  
Massachusetts Business Roundtable  
Mercy College  
Metals Service Center Institute  
MetroHartford Alliance  
MGK  
Michigan Manufacturers Association  
Mid-Hudson Pattern for Progress  
Minnesota Chamber of Commerce  
Minnesota High Tech Association  
Minnesota Precision Manufacturing Association  
Mississippi Manufacturers Association  
Missouri Association of Manufacturers  
Missouri Chamber of Commerce  
Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education  
Molded Fiber Glass Tray Company  
Montana Chamber of Commerce  
Montana Manufacturing Council  
Motor & Equipment Manufacturers Association  
Mount Saint Mary College  
NAACP  
NAM  
National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity  
National Association of Graduate-Professional Students (NAGPS)  
National Association of Secondary School Principals  
National Association of State Directors of Career Technical Education Consortium (NASDCTEc)  
National Association of Trailer Manufacturers  
National Association of Workforce Development Professionals  
National Cart Company LLC  
National Center for Technological Literacy at the Museum of Science, Boston  
National Coalition on Black Civic Participation  
National Council for Advanced Manufacturing  
National Council of State Directors of Adult Education  
National Council of Teachers of Mathematics

National Industries for the Blind  
National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence (ASE)  
National Roofing Contractors Association  
National Science Education Leadership Association  
Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company  
Nevada Manufacturers Association  
New England Council  
New Hampton High School  
New Jersey Business & Industry Association (NJBIA)  
New Jersey Chamber of Commerce Foundation  
New Mexico Business Roundtable  
New York Technology Council (NYTECH)  
New Hampshire High Technology Council  
North American Signs, Inc.  
North Carolina Science, Mathematics, and Technology Education Center  
North Country Chamber of Commerce  
Northeast Pennsylvania Manufacturers & Employers Association  
Northrop Grumman Corporation  
NPES The Association for Suppliers of Printing, Publishing and Converting Technologies  
Opportunity Nation  
Optimax Systems, Inc.  
Oracle  
Oregon Business Council  
Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
Pennsylvania Association of Housing and Redevelopment Agencies (PAHRA)  
Partners for Education & Business  
Partnership for New York City  
Pathways to Prosperity Kansas/Missouri Regional Council  
Philadelphia Works  
Polaris Industries  
Port Townsend Paper Corporation  
Portland Cement Association  
Power Transmission Distributors Association  
Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence  
Puritan Medical Products Company LLC  
Quality Float Works, Inc.  
Ranger Die, Inc.  
Rayonier Advanced Materials  
Red Bud Industries, Inc.  
Red Gold, Inc.  
Rhode Island Manufacturers Association  
Roaring Spring Blank Book Co.  
Rockland Business Association  
Rockwell Collins  
RoMan Manufacturing Inc.  
Round Rock Chamber of Commerce  
Round Rock Independent Schools  
Round Rock ISD CTE Department  
Samsung  
Samsung Austin Semiconductor, LLC  
San Antonio Manufacturers Association

San Francisco Chamber of Commerce  
San Jose Silicon Valley Chamber of Commerce  
SASCO Chemical Group, Inc.  
Science@OC  
Semiconductor Equipment & Materials International (SEMI)  
Silicon Valley Leadership Group  
Society of Chemical Manufacturers and Affiliates  
Specialty Equipment Market Association (SEMA)  
State Chamber of Oklahoma  
State Supervisor for Technology and Engineering Education  
State Technical College of Missouri  
State University of New York  
STEM Education Coalition  
STEMx  
Students4STEM  
Subaru of Indiana Automotive, Inc.  
Sullivan-Palatek, Inc.  
SUMCO Phoenix Corporation  
Superior Graphite Co.  
Symantec Corporation  
Tag Team Manufacturing  
Tech Association of Iowa  
Tech Collective  
Tech Collective-Rhode Island's Technology Council  
Tech Council of MD Cyberways & Waterways Greater Dubuque Development Corp Dutchess  
County Workforce Investment Board  
TechNet  
Technology Association of Iowa  
Technology Association of Louisville Kentucky  
Technology Councils of North America (TECNA)  
Technology Education Concepts, Inc.  
Technology Student Association  
Tennessee Association of Manufacturers  
Texas Alliance of Minorities in Engineering (TAME)  
Texas Association of Business  
The American Tank and Fabricating Company  
The Boeing Company  
The Business Council of New York State, Inc.  
The Business Council of Westchester  
The Carpet and Rug Institute  
The Chatfield Group  
The College Board  
The Council of Industry  
The Guardian Life Insurance Co  
The Manufacturers Alliance of New York  
The Manufacturers Association of Central New York  
The Mayor's Commission on Literacy  
The Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry  
The Ohio Manufacturers' Association  
The Rochester Technology and Manufacturing Association  
Thermcraft, Inc

Thermo Fisher Scientific/Fisher Science Education  
Toyota Motor North America, Inc.  
Triangle Coalition for STEM Education  
Trinity Industries, Inc.  
Tyler Equipment Corporation  
U.S. Chamber of Commerce  
UNITE - LA  
United Way of Central Ohio  
United Way of New York State  
United Way of New York State  
United Way of Texas  
United Way Silicon Valley  
United Way Suncoast  
United Ways of Texas  
Universal Technical Institute  
Uniweld Products In.  
Valley Industrial Association  
Vermont Chamber of Commerce  
Vermont Technology Alliance  
Vernier Software & Technology  
West Virginia Manufacturers Association  
Wayne Supply Company  
Wider Opportunities for Women  
WilliamsRDM  
Wisconsin Valley Concrete  
Woodland Hills School District  
Woodwork Career Alliance of North America  
Woodworking Machinery Industry Association (WMIA)  
Workforce Development Institute Mohawk Valley  
Wyoming County Chamber of Commerce  
Xerox Corporation