



1250 Connecticut Ave., NW  
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September 16, 2025

The Honorable Mike Johnson  
Speaker of the House  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C 20515

The Honorable John Thune  
Majority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries  
Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer  
Minority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C 20510

Dear Speaker Johnson, Leader Thune, Leader Jeffries, and Leader Schumer:

Thank you for your leadership as Congress considers legislation to fund federal workforce programs for the 2026 fiscal year. The undersigned businesses and business associations urge you to maintain and increase funding for skills training and workforce development programs, which are critical to support businesses seeking skilled workers to fill existing and future job vacancies. They also help workers access training to secure jobs in high-demand fields, advance in their careers, and adapt to technological advancements.

Employers are already facing workforce challenges. Impending waves of retirements from older workers, competition across industries, and inadequate access to supports like childcare and transportation will exacerbate the already high demand for a workforce with specific skills. Despite this growing need, the United States has chronically underinvested in its workforce systems and lags significantly behind peer nations, impacting the ability of businesses to compete. In order to address the immediate and long-term needs of businesses and workers, Congress must support robust investments in skills.

This is sound policy that also enjoys broad public support. According to recent polling, 82% of voters support increasing government funding for skills training in America. As you work together to agree to spending levels for the 2026 fiscal year, we urge you to pass legislation that:

- Funds federal workforce programs at robust levels. Workforce programs are crucial for providing industry-aligned training and education and must be funded without reducing current levels, which would damage the ability of businesses to hire the skilled workers needed to grow and succeed.





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- Provides dedicated funding for industry or sector partnerships. Partnerships are key strategies for tailoring training to employers' needs and providing workers with the necessary training and supportive services to complete programs and be successful on the job.
- Maintains the current maximum Pell Grant award for workers and students. Pell Grants, which beginning in 2026 will expand to shorter-term skills training programs, are a valuable tool to make education more affordable and accessible for those with the greatest financial need.

U.S. employers are committed to working with Congress to foster economic growth and ensure that workers have access to quality jobs. Federal workforce programs play a key role in this effort. The undersigned businesses and business associations urge you to secure and enhance funding for critical workforce programs for the 2026 fiscal year without cutting existing funding levels.

Sincerely,

AccuRounds  
Aeronautical Repair Station Association  
Always Best Care Senior Services  
Arizona Technology Council  
Arkansas Advanced Energy Foundation  
Associated Equipment Distributors  
Association of Marina Industries  
Avery Dennison  
Barry County Chamber & EDA  
The Bernard Group LLC  
Boston Centerless  
Building Potential  
Business Council of New York State, Inc.  
Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce  
Cook Group Incorporated  
Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce  
Delaware Black Chamber of Commerce  
Detroit Region Aerotropolis Development Corporation  
Ed Farm  
Electronic Security Association  
Elevate Douglas Economic Partnership  
Fairlead  
Fessler & Bowman Inc.  
Grand Rapids Chamber





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Greater Louisville Inc.  
Greater Munising Bay Partnership  
Greater Phoenix Chamber  
Greater San Fernando Valley Chamber of Commerce  
Greensboro Chamber of Commerce  
GRID Alternatives  
Gunnys Air Conditioning and Heating  
High Desert Hispanic Chamber of Commerce  
Heavy Metal Training Institute, LLC  
Idaho Forest Group LLC  
IEC Chesapeake  
InRareFormbyOffBeat Makers  
Jostin Construction  
Journey Discovery Center  
Longview TX Chamber of Commerce  
Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce  
Louisiana Association of Business & Industry  
Magee Electric, Inc.  
Marine Retailers Association of the Americas  
Metrics Reporting Inc.  
Metro Atlanta Chamber  
Michigan Energy Efficiency Contractors Association  
Michigan Manufacturers Association  
Mills Machine  
Mid South Extrusion Inc- Monroe, LA  
National Coalition of Advanced Technology Centers  
National Tooling and Machining Association  
Nevada Contractors Association- AGC of Las Vegas  
NexGen Interactive, LLC  
Next Generation in Trucking Association  
Northern Kentucky Chamber of Commerce  
O'Neill Construction  
Optimax Systems Inc.  
Orange County Business Council  
Orlando Economic Partnership  
Precision Machined Products Association  
Precision Metalforming Association  
Prism Maritime LLC





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Progressive Foam Technologies Inc.  
QED Systems Inc.  
Richards Industrials  
Rocky Mount Area Chamber of Commerce, Inc.  
San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce  
Santa Barbara South Coast Chamber of Commerce  
Santa Monica Chamber  
Schwerdtle Inc.  
Settlers Hospitality Group  
SHINE Energy  
Solar Energy Industry Association  
South Florida Tech Hub  
Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce  
Stratford Homes Limited Partnership  
Talent First  
Tech Council of Delaware  
The Chamber of Commerce for Greater Philadelphia  
Transfr Inc.  
UNICON Rochester  
Vail Valley Partnership  
West Alabama Chamber of Commerce  
Williamson Inc.  
Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce  
WorkSystems  
Worldscapes LLC  
Wyoming Machine, Inc.  
Xcel Energy  
York County Economic Alliance

