

September 8, 2016

The Honorable John Kline
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

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.

Cc: Members of the House of Representatives

Sincerely,

A. O. Smith Corporation
ABB Inc.
Abbott
ACCA-The Indoor Environment & Energy Association
Accurate Felt & Gasket Mfg. Co.
ACE Clearwater Enterprises
Action Manufacturing Company, Inc.
Aeronautical Repair Station Association
Aerospace Industries Association
Afterschool Alliance
AICC, The Independent Packaging Association
Air Conditioning Contractors of America
Air Logistics Corporation
Air Products and Chemicals, Inc.
Air-Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute (AHRI)
Alamo Group, Inc.
Alaska Chamber
Allen Edmonds Corporation
ALLETE, Inc.
Alliance for Excellent Education
Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers
Alloy Engineering Co., Inc.
Amatrol, Inc.
American Architectural Manufacturers Association
American Axle & Manufacturing
American Bakers Association
American Chemical Society
American Coatings Association
American Composites Manufacturers Association
American Concrete Pressure Pipe Association
American Counseling Association
American Foundry Society
American Home Furnishings Alliance
American Iron and Steel Institute
American Seed Trade Association
American Society of Employers
American Welding Society
American Wire Producers Association
AMT - The Association For Manufacturing Technology
Andy Roddick Foundation
Anne Arundel Community College
APSCO Manufacturing
Architectural Woodwork Institute

Arizona Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Arizona Manufacturers Council
Arizona Technology Council
Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce
Armstrong World Industries, Inc.
Associated Equipment Distributors
Associated General Contractors
Associated Industries of Missouri
Associated Oregon Industries, Inc.
Associated Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors of Texas, Inc.
Association for Advancing Automation (A3)
Association for Talent Development
Association of Equipment Manufacturers
Association of Global Automakers
Association of Washington Business
Association of Woodworking & Furnishings Suppliers (AWFS)
Augustus F. Hawkins Foundation
Austin Chamber of Commerce
Austin Community College
Auto Care Association
Automation Alley
Aviation Technician Education Council
Bachman Machine Company
Baldor Electric Company
BASF Corporation
Baton Rouge Area Chamber
Battelle Memorial Institute
Behlen Mfg. Co.
Berkley Screw Machine Products
Berks County (PA) Workforce Development Board
Berks Packing Company, Inc.
Bloomington – Normal Economic Development Council
Blue Ridge Community and Technical College
Boise Cascade Company
Boulder Chamber of Commerce
Boulder Economic Council
Bradford White Corporation
Brilex Tech Services, Inc.
Bronx Community College
Buffalo Niagara Partnership
Business Council of Alabama
Business Council of Westchester
Business Education Network, Commerce Lexington
Business Roundtable
CA Technologies

California Business Roundtable
California Manufacturers & Technology Association
Camp Fire Central Texas
Career & Technical Association of Texas
Carpenter Technology Corporation
Castle Worldwide, Inc.
Caterpillar Inc.
Ceco Door
Center for Employment Training
CEO Council for Growth
Change the Equation
Chemcut Corporation
Chemung County Chamber of Commerce
CIMBAR Performance Minerals
Citizen Schools
City of Austin
Civic Enterprises
Click Bond, Inc.
Code.org
Colorado Business Roundtable
Columbia Vista Corporation
Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque
Community Health Charities, Inc.
Composite Panel Association
CompTIA
Concrete Reinforcing Steel Institute
Connecticut Business & Industry Association
Cook Medical
Council of Industry of Southeastern New York
Cristo Rey Kansas City
Crown Equipment Corporation
Dallas County Community College District
Dallas Regional Chamber
Deere & Company
DeLaSalle Education Center
Delaware Business Council
Delaware Business Roundtable
Dell, Inc.
Deloitte, LLP
Delta Faucet
Delta Systems, Inc.
DENSO International America, Inc.
Department of Engineering and Technology
Depew High School
Dixon Valve & Coupling Co.

Draper, Inc.
Durham Technical Community College
Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce
Dutchess County Workforce Investment Board
DWS Technologies, LLC
Eaton
Education & Training Solutions, LLC
Emerson
Entertainment Software Association
Ergotronix
Ferguson Perforating & Wire Company
Fibre Box Association
FM Brown's Sons, Incorporated
Ford Motor Company
Forging Industry Association
FPDA - Motion Control
Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce
Fusion
G&D Integrated
Gaston College
Gehring-Tricot Corp
Gene Haas Foundation
General & Automotive Machine Shop, Inc.
General Motors Company
Georgia Association of Manufacturers
Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education
Giant Steps of St. Louis
Girl Scouts of San Jacinto
Glencoe-Silver Lake, MN High School STEM Advisory Board
Global Cold Chain Alliance
Goodwill Southern California
Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce
Greater Durham Chamber of Commerce
Greater Houston Partnership
Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce
Greater North Dakota Chamber of Commerce
Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce
Greater Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce
Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce
Greno Industries
Haas Automation, Inc.
Haas Factory Outlet, LLC
Halliburton
Hardwood Federation
Hardwood Manufacturers Association

Hartwig, Inc.
HealthCode
Heart of Florida United
Heating, Air-Conditioning & Refrigeration Distributors International (HARDI)
Hewlett Packard Enterprise Company
Hi-Lex Controls, Inc.
Hillside Family of Agencies
Honda North America, Inc.
Houston Independent School District
Hudson Valley Pattern for Progress
Hunter Hawk, Incorporated
Huntington Ingalls
Hyster-Yale Materials Handling, Inc.
IBM Corporation
Illinois Manufacturers' Association
Inbound Logistics Magazine
INDA, The Association for Nonwoven Fabrics Industry
Independent Bakers Association
Independent Electrical Contractors
Independent Lubricant Manufacturers Association
Indiana Manufacturers Association, Inc.
Industrial Minerals Association - North America
Industrial Minerals Association – North America
Industrial Tool, Die & Engineering, Inc.
Infor
Information Technology Industry Council, (ITI)
Ingersoll Rand, plc
Institute of Makers of Explosives
Intel Corporation
Interlocking Concrete Pavement Institute
International Dairy Foods Association
International Housewares Association
International Imaging Materials, Inc. (IIMAK)
International Paper
International Sign Association
Iowa Association of Business & Industry
Iowa Business Council
IPC - Association Connecting Electronics Industries
Isimac Machine Company, Inc.
ITEEA – The International Technology and Engineering Educators Association
Jackson Area Manufacturers Association
Jackson Chamber
Jackson State Community College
James Machine Works, Inc.
Jamison Door Company

Jennette Specialty Glass
JourneyAH, LLC – Leadership & Management Development Training Company
JPM Prototype & Mfg., Inc.
Junior Achievement of Oklahoma
Junior Achievement of Southern California
Kaddas Enterprises Inc.
KC Tech Council
Kentucky Association of Manufacturers (KAM)
Kentucky Chamber of Commerce
Kentucky Community & Technical College (KCTCS)
Kimber Mfg., Inc.
Kiva Plastics, Inc.
Kohler Company
Lake Champlain Regional Chamber of Commerce
Lake Shore Cryotronics, Inc.
Lanxess Corporation
Leading Builders of America
Learn All The Time Network
Longmont Chamber of Commerce
Louisiana Association of Business & Industry
Louisiana Committee of 100 for Economic Development
Lubbock Area United Way
Lubbock-Cooper ISD
Lumity
LyondellBasell
MACNY - The Manufacturers Association
Magnet Schools of America
Maine State Chamber of Commerce
Manufacturers Association of Florida
Manufacturing Skill Standards Council
Marcus Paint Company
Marlin Steel Wire Products LLC
Marvin Windows and Doors
Maryland Business Roundtable for Education
Maryland Chamber of Commerce
Massachusetts Business Alliance for Education
Massachusetts Business Roundtable
Massachusetts Technology Leadership Council, Inc.
Matagorda County United Way
Memry Corporation
Merrill Technologies Group
Metal Powder Industries Federation
MetroHartford Alliance
MGK Group, Inc.
Michigan Manufacturers Association

Microsoft Corporation
Miles Fiberglass & Composites, Inc.
Mills Machine Co.
Mindset, Inc.
Minnesota Chamber of Commerce
Minnesota Manufacturers Coalition
Mississippi Manufacturers Association
Missouri Association of Manufacturers
Modern Metal Processing, Inc.
Monadnock Paper Mills, Inc.
Monroe Community College
Montana Chamber of Commerce
Montana Manufacturing Association
Morris County Vocational School District - Continuing ED
Motor & Equipment Manufacturers Association
NAACP
National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity (NAPE)
National Association of Graduate-Professional Students
National Association of Manufacturers (NAM)
National Association of State Student Grant and Aid Programs (NASSGAP)
National Association of Trailer Manufacturers
National Association of Workforce Boards
National Cart
National Center for Technological Literacy at the Museum of Science, Boston
National Coalition of Certification Centers (NC3)
National Concrete Masonry Association
National Council for Advanced Manufacturing
National Council of Teachers of Mathematics
National Grid
National Marine Manufacturers Association
National Retail Federation
National Roofing Contractors Association
National Science Education Leadership Association
National Skills Coalition
National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association
National Technology Transfer
National Waste & Recycling Association
National Wood Flooring Association
Nevada Manufacturers Association
New Hampshire High Technology Council
New Jersey Business & Industry Association
New Jersey Chamber of Commerce
New Mexico Business Roundtable
New York State School Boards Association
Nichols Precision

North American Association of Food Equipment Manufacturers (NAFEM)
North American Die Casting Association
North Carolina Chamber
North Carolina Institute of Minority Economic Development
North Carolina Technology Association
Northeast PA Manufacturers & Employers Association
Northern Virginia Community College
NPES-The Association for Suppliers of Printing, Publishing and Converting Technologies
NY Tech Alliance
NYMAT
Ohio Business Roundtable
OHTec
Oil City Iron Works, Inc.
Oklahoma Business Roundtable
Opportunity America
Opportunity Nation
Optical Cable Corporation
Oracle Corporation
Oregon Business Council
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Partnership for New York City
Partnership of Air Conditioning, Heating & Refrigeration Accreditation (PAHRA)
Pattern for Progress
PeopleFund
Philadelphia Alliance for Capital and Technologies (PACT)
Philadelphia Works
Plastic Pipe and Fittings Association
Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors – National Association
Port Townsend Paper Corporation
Poughkeepsie Alliance
Precipart Corporation
Project Exploration
Project Lead the Way
Quality Float Works, Inc.
R M Palmer Company
Raleigh Chamber of Commerce
Rayonier Advanced Materials
Red Bud Industries, Inc.
Rhode Island Manufacturers Association
Richardson (Texas) Chamber of Commerce
Roanoke-Blacksburg Technology Council
Roaring Spring Blank Book Co.
RoMan Manufacturing Inc.
Royal Arms International, Inc.
S.C. Johnson & Son, Inc.

S4J Manufacturing Services, Inc.
Saint-Gobain Corporation
San Antonio Chamber of Commerce
San Antonio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
San Jose Silicon Valley Chamber of Commerce
Sandvik Coromant US
Science Foundation Arizona
Sessa Manufacturing & Welding
SGL Carbon, LLC.
Shaw Industries Group, Inc.
Siemens Corporation
Silicon Valley Leadership Group
SKF USA Inc.
Society for Maintenance & Reliability Professionals (SMRP)
Society of Chemical Manufacturers & Affiliates
Society of Women Engineers
Software & Information Industry Association (SIIA)
South Carolina Council on Competitiveness
South Texas College
Specialty Equipment Market Association (SEMA)
SPI: The Plastics Industry Trade Association
SSAB Americas
St. Michael's Learning Academy
Stark State College
State University of New York
Steel Manufacturers Association
Stellar Industries, Inc.
STEM Education Coalition
STEMx
STERIS Corporation
Strategic HR Partners, Inc.
SUNY Geneseo
Sweet Street Desserts, Inc.
Symantec Corporation
Synopsys, Inc.
TAB Industries, LLC
TE Connectivity
Tech Council of Maryland
Tech Titans of North Texas
TechNet
Technical Services, Inc.
Technology Association of Georgia
Technology Association of Louisville, Kentucky
Technology Association of Oregon
Technology Councils of North America (TECNA)

Tennessee Association of Manufacturers
Tennessee Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Tennessee Manufacturers Association
Texas Association of Business
Texas Association of Manufacturers
Texas Business Leadership Council
Textile Rental Services Association of America (TRSA)
The Aluminum Association
The Boeing Company
The Business Council of New York State
The Carlstar Group, LLC
The Carpet and Rug Institute
The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company
The Greater Baltimore Committee
The Guardian Life Insurance Company of America
The Hershey Company
The Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU)
The Kansas Chamber of Commerce & Industry
The Lee Company
The Manufacturers Alliance of New York
The New England Council
The Research & Development Council of New Jersey
The Space Foundation
The Technology and Manufacturing Association
Thermcraft, Incorporated
Thermo Fisher Scientific/Fisher Scientific Education
Thinking Media - Learning Blade
Third Way
Tompkins County Chamber of Commerce
Toyota Motor North America, Inc.
Treated Wood Council
Trega Corporation
Trevecca Nazarene University
Trim-Tex, Inc.
U.S. Axle, Inc.
U.S. Chamber of Commerce
U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
United Way Abilene
United Way for Greater Austin
United Way of Central Iowa
United Way of Greater Baytown Area & Chambers County
United Way of Greater Houston
United Way of Hays County
United Way of Lamar County
United Way of New York State

United Way of San Antonio and Bexar County
United Way of Smith County
United Way of South Texas
United Way of Southern Cameron County
United Way of Tarrant County
Universal Alloy Corporation
Universal Metal Products, Inc.
Univision
Valley Forge & Bolt Mfg. Co.
Valley Industrial Association
Verisurf 3D Measurement Solutions
Vermont Chamber of Commerce
Vermont Technology Alliance
Vernier Software & Technology
Virginia Manufacturers Association
Vision Mechanical Inc
VOCADAMY - The Makerspace
West Tennessee Industrial Association, Jackson, Tennessee
West Virginia Community and Technical College System
West Virginia Manufacturers Association
Westinghouse Electric Company
Williams RDM
Woodwork Career Alliance of North America
World Youth Foundation
Xerox Corporation
YMCA Greater Austin
YMCA of the USA
Young Invincibles
Youth Communication
Zero Zone Refrigeration
Zero Zone, Inc.