June 25, 2018

The Honorable Lamar Alexander Chairman, Senate Health, Education, Labor & Pensions Committee 428 Senate Dirksen Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray
Ranking Member, Senate Health, Education, Labor & Pensions Committee
428 Senate Dirksen Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Alexander and Ranking Member Murray:

We, the undersigned businesses and organizations, write to urge the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions to take swift, bipartisan action on reauthorization of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act. An update to this legislation is crucial to helping our nation's students acquire the skills needed to be successful in today's workplace.

Because employers are reporting a shortage of skilled workers to fill in-demand positions, ensuring that secondary and postsecondary institutions offer modern, quality and relevant career and technical education (CTE) programs remains a leading priority so that we can develop and grow our nation's workforce. As competition for high-skilled labor increases and as the U.S. economy reaches full employment, every effort must be made to close the skills gaps that many industries across all sectors face.

The Senate has an opportunity to support a next-generation workforce by investing in and modernizing CTE programs. Reauthorization of the Perkins CTE Act should focus on areas where improvements can be made to current law. As employers, we support efforts to:

- 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 postsecondary credentials.

These updates will improve student outcomes and create additional postsecondary pathways into the workforce by preparing students with the academic, technical and employability skills they need to thrive.

The House of Representatives unanimously passed a version of a Perkins CTE reauthorization in 2017. It is time for the Senate to follow suit and help prepare Americans for career opportunities in a growing economy.

We look forward to your consideration and stand ready to work with you to support a high-quality, high-skilled workforce.

Sincerely,

Abbott

AccuRounds, Inc.

ADM Milling Company

Advanced Superabrasives Inc.

Aeronautical Repair Station Association

Aerospace Industries Association

AICC, The Independent Packaging Association

Air Conditioning Contractors of America (ACCA)

Air Handling Systems

Air-Conditioning, Heating & Refrigeration Institute

AK Steel

Alaska Chamber

Albany Area Chamber

Alignment Collaborative for Education

Allegheny Conference on Community Development

Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers

Alliance of Wyoming Manufacturers

ALOM

Amatrol, Inc.

America Succeeds

American Association of Community Colleges

American Axle & Manufacturing

American Bakers Association

American Coatings Association, Inc.

American Coke and Coal Chemicals Institute

American Concrete Pressure Pipe Association

American Foundry Society

American Road & Transportation Builders Association

American Society of Employers

American Sportfishing Association

American Supply Association

American Wood Council

Ames Chamber of Commerce

AMT - The Association For Manufacturing Technology

Analog Devices, Inc.

Architectural Woodwork Institute

Arizona Chamber of Commerce & Industry

Arizona Manufacturers Council

Arizona Technology Council

Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce

Asheville Buncombe Technical Community College

ASPIRA of New York Inc.

Associated Builders and Contractors

Associated Equipment Distributors

Associated General Contractors

Associated Industries of Arkansas, Inc.

Associated Industries of Massachusetts

Association for Print Technologies (formerly NPES)

Association for Talent Development

Association of Equipment Manufacturers

Association of Global Automakers

Association of Pool & Spa Professionals

Association of Washington Business

Association of Woodworking & Furnishings Suppliers (AWFS)

Atlantic Technical College

Augustus F. Hawkins Foundation

Aurora Regional Chamber of Commerce

Austin Chamber of Commerce

Baker Boy

Bar Harbor Chamber of Commerce

BASF Corporation

Baton Rouge Area Chamber

Battelle Memorial Institute

Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Area Chamber of Commerce

Billings Chamber of Commerce

Blair County Chamber of Commerce

Blue Ridge Community College

Blue Springs Metals, LLC

Boeing Company, The

Boise Metro Chamber

Bolingbrook Area Chamber of Commerce

Bongards Premium Cheese

Book Industry Study Group

Book Manufacturers' Institute

Boulder Economic Council

Bradford White Corporation

Brick Industry Association

Bridgestone Americas Tire Operations

Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce

Brown & Bigelow

BSA | The Software Alliance

Buffalo Niagara Manufacturing Alliance

Buffalo Niagara Partnership

Building Service Contractors Association International

Burlington Chamber of Commerce

Business Council of Alabama

Business Roundtable

BWX Technologies, Inc.

CA Technologies

Cadillac Area Chamber of Commerce

Caldwell Chamber of Commerce

Cameron Manufacturing & Design

Cape May County Chamber of Commerce

Capital Region Chamber

Carson City Chamber of Commerce

Carson City School District

CDA Chamber of Commerce

Cedar Rapids Metro Economic Alliance

Central Maryland Chamber

Central Vermont Chamber of Commerce

CEO Council for Growth

Chamber630

Chemcut

Chemung County Chamber of Commerce

Chester County Chamber of Business & Industry

City University of New York (CUNY)

Cleveland-Bolivar County Chamber of Commerce

Click Bond, Inc.

CliftonLarsonAllen

Clow Stamping Company

Coalition on Adult Basic Education

Code.org

Coldwell Banker Select Real Estate

Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL)

Color Pigments Manufacturers Association

Colorado Advanced Manufacturing Association

Colorado Business Roundtable

Colorado Succeeds

Colorado Technology Association

Command Companies

Commerce Lexington Inc.

Committee for Children

Communities In Schools of Mid-America, Inc.

Composite Panel Association

Comprehensive Security Services, Inc.

CompTIA

Concrete Reinforcing Steel Institute

Connecticut Business & Industry Association

Cookware Manufacturers Association

Cottonwood Mobile Home Park, Inc.

Council of Industry of Southeastern New York

Cumberland Regional High School District

CUNY Bronx Community College

Cypress College

Dallas Regional Chamber

Deco Products Company, LLLP

Defiance Metal Products

Delaware State Chamber of Commerce/Delaware Manufacturing Association

Dell

Delphon Industries

DENSO International America

Duke Energy

Durable Products, Inc.

Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce

East Providence Area Chamber of Commerce

Eastfield College

Eau Claire Area Chamber of Commerce

Economic Alliance Snohomish County

Edison Electric Institute

Edwardsville/Glen Carbon Chamber of Commerce

Effingham County Chamber of Commerce

Elgin Area Chamber

Elgin Community College

Emanuel Bodner, LLC

Emerson

EMSDC - Block-by-Block Industries

FCA US LLC

Fibre Box Association

Flexovit USA, Inc.

Ford Motor Company

Forging Industry Association

Forma Automotive

Foundry Association of Michigan

Four D Enterprises LLC

Friends of Carson City Library

Ganesha Enterprises LLC

GateWay Community College

Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce

Gear Motions

General & Automotive Machine Shop, Inc.

Georgetown Metal Processing, LLC

Georgia Association of Manufacturers

Georgia Chamber of Commerce

Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education

Gerdau

Global Cold Chain Alliance

Grand Rapids Area Chamber

Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce

Great Lakes Metro Chamber Chambers Coalition

Greater Akron Chamber

Greater Binghamton Chamber of Commerce

Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce

Greater Decatur Chamber of Commerce

Greater Houston Partnership

Greater Louisville Inc.

Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce

Greater Memphis Chamber

Greater Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce

Greater Reading Chamber Alliance

Greater Rochester Advocates for Universities and Colleges

Greater Rochester Chamber of Commerce

Greater Spokane Incorporated

Greater Susquehanna Valley Chamber of Commerce

Greater Watertown-North Country Chamber of Commerce

Greater Yakima Chamber of Commerce

Green Bay Drop Forge

Greenville Tool & Die Co

Hastings Area Chamber of Commerce

HealthCode

High Company LLC

Hillenbrand

Hitachi. Ltd

Honda North America, Inc.

IBM

Idaho Association of Commerce and Industry

Illinois Chamber of Commerce

Illinois Manufacturers' Association

Independent Electrical Contractors

Indiana Cast Metals Association

Indiana Manufacturers Association

Industrial Fasteners Institute

Industrial Minerals Association - North America

Industrial Truck Association

Information Technology Industry Council (ITI)

Interlocking Concrete Pavement Institute

International Code Council

International Paper

International Sign Association

Investment Casting Institute

Iowa Association of Business and Industry

IPC - Association Connecting Electronics Industries

IQMS

Irrigation Association

ITEEA-International Technology and Engineering Educators Association

Jackson Area Manufacturers Association

Jamestown Area Chamber of Commerce

Jamison Door Company

Jefferson Community and Technical College

Jerome Chamber of Commerce

Jersey Shore Chamber of Commerce

Jewels Benefits, Inc.

Johnson Controls

JOIN Inc. Training Nevadans for Careers

Kentucky Chamber of Commerce

Kingsport Chamber of Commerce

Knoxville Chamber

Koch Enterprises, Inc.

Kyndle

Lake Champlain Regional Chamber of Commerce

Lakes Region Community College

Lawson State Community College

Leading Builders of America

Leggett & Platt, Incorporated

Liberty Pumps

LIXIL Americas

Longmont Area Chamber of Commerce

Longview Chamber of Commerce

Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce

Lower Cape May Regional School District

Lubbock Chamber of Commerce

Lumbee Regional Development Association

Lupson Associates LLC

Manufacturers Education & Training Alliance Inc.

Marilyn Lewis Insurance Agency Inc

Marlin Steel Wire Products

Maryland Business Roundtable for Education

Maryland Chamber of Commerce

Massachusetts Business Alliance for Education

Massachusetts Business Roundtable

Mayo Clinic

McLean County Chamber of Commerce

Merritt Aluminum Products Company

Metal Powder Industries Federation

Metals Service Center Institute

MGK

Michael Byrne Mfg

Michigan Chamber

Michigan City Chamber of Commerce

Michigan Manufacturers Association

Microsoft

Mid-Hudson Pattern for Progress

Miles Fiberglass & Composites Inc.

Milliken

Mississippi Manufacturers Association

Missouri Association of Manufacturers

Missouri Chamber of Commerce & Industry

Monadnock Paper Mills, Inc.

Monroe Chamber of Commerce

Montana Chamber of Commerce

Motor & Equipment Manufacturers Association

NAFEM

Naperville Area Chamber of Commerce

NARI

Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce

National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity (NAPE)

National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (NAFEO)

National Association for Surface Finishing

National Association of Manufacturers

National Association of Secondary School Principals

National Association of Trailer Manufacturers

National Black Chamber of Commerce

National Center for College and Career Transitions

National Concrete Masonry Association

National Council for Advanced Manufacturing

National Council of Teachers of Mathematics

National Electrical Manufacturers Association

National FFA Organization

National Ground Water Association

National Lumber and Building Material Dealers Association

National Marine Manufacturers Association

National Retail Federation

National Roofing Contractors Association

National Skills Coalition

National Stone Sand and Gravel Association

National Tooling & Machining Association

National Utility Contractors Association

National Waste & Recycling Association

National Wood Flooring Association

NAWBO Chicago

Nevada Manufacturers Association

New Jersey Business & Industry Association

New Jersey Chamber of Commerce Foundation

New PECO, Inc

Nissan North America

Nome Chamber of Commerce

Norcom, Inc.

North American Die Casting Association

North American Lighting

North American Millers' Association

North Carolina Chamber

North Central Massachusetts Chamber of Commerce

North Country Chamber of Commerce

Northampton Community College

Northeast PA Manufacturers & Employers Association

Northeast PA Manufacturers & Employers Council, Inc.

Northtech Machine LLC

Offsite Data Depot

Ohio Cast Metals Association

One Southern Indiana

Optimax Systems, Inc.

Oracle

Outdoor Power Equipment Institute

Painter Tool Inc

Panther Industries, Inc.

Pardee UNC Health Care

Paris Area Chamber of Commerce & Tourism

Partnership for Air Conditioning, Heating, Refrigeration Accreditation

Pasco Chamber of Commerce

Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry

PG&E Corporation

Pike County Chamber of Commerce

Pine Hall Brick Co

Pittsburgh Airport Area Chamber of Commerce

Plastics Industry Association

Plumbing Manufacturers International

Pocatello-Chubbuck Chamber of Commerce

Port Townsend Paper Corporation

Portland Cement Association

Pratt Area Chamber of Commerce

Precision Machined Products Association

Precision Metalforming Association

Prime Locations Nevada, LLC

Printing Industries of America

Project Lead The Way

Quad Cities Chamber of Commerce

Quality Float Works, Inc.

Qualtek Manufacturing Inc.

Railway Tie Association

Rawlins Chamber of Commerce

Republic Services, Inc.

Resilient Floor Covering Institute

Reusable Industrial Packaging Association

Rheem Manufacturing Company

Richland Area Chamber of Commerce

Riverdale Mills Corp.

Roaring Spring Blank Book Co.

Rolling Meadows Chamber

Saginaw County Chamber of Commerce

Saint-Gobain Corporation

San Diego Miramar College

San Jacinto College

Santa Maria Valley Chamber of Commerce

SAS

Schatz Bearing Corporation

Schmalz Inc.

Schreiber LLC

Schuylkill Chamber of Commerce

Sechan Electronics, Inc

SEMI

Senninger Plumbing

Sheridan County Chamber of Commerce

Siemens

Sierra Academy of Style

SkillsUSA

Society of Women Engineers

Software & Information Industry Association

South Carolina Chamber of Commerce

Specialty Equipment Market Association

Specialty Graphic Imaging Association

Springfield Regional Chamber

St. Cloud Area Chamber of Commerce

St. Joseph (MO) Chamber of Commerce

Stanly County Chamber of Commerce

Steel Manufacturers Association

STEMx

Strategic HR Partners, Inc.

SUNY — The State University of New York

Superior Graphite Co.

Taco, Inc.

TAG Team Manufacturing

Tata Consultancy Services

TBDN Tennessee Company

Tecumseh Public Schools

Tennessee Chamber of Commerce & Industry

Tennessee Chamber of Commerce / Tennessee Manufacturers Association

Texas Association of Manufacturers

Texas Cast Metals Association

The Business Council of New York State, Inc.

The Business Council of Westchester

The Carrington Company

The Chamber Grand Forks East Grand Forks

The Chamber of Commerce for Greater Philadelphia

The Colorado Chamber of Commerce (CACI)

The Greater Naples Chamber of Commerce

The Greater Scranton Chamber of Commerce

The Hardwood Federation

The Hormel Institute, University of Minnesota

The New England Council

The Society for Maintenance & Reliability Professionals (SMRP)

The State University of New York

The Vinyl Institute

The West Virginia Chamber of Commerce

Thermcraft, Inc

Thermo Fisher Scientific

Think Dutchess

Third Way

Tidewater Community College

Tioga County Chamber of Commerce

Toyota Bodine

Toyota Boshoku Tennessee

Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Texas

Toyota Motor North America, Inc.

TRAM, Inc.

Trussway Manufacturing, LLC

Tucson Hispanic Chamber

Tucson Metro Chamber

TVS

U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Umpqua Community College

Unex Manufacturing

United Way Worldwide

Uniweld Products Inc.

Valley Industrial Association

Vantec, Inc.

Verisurf Measurement Solutions

Vermeer Corporation

Vermont Chamber of Commerce

Vernier Software & Technology

Vineberg Machining Inc.

Vinyl Siding Institute

Volkswagen Group of America, Inc.

Volvo Group North America

Vulcan Materials Company

Walker Machinery Company

Walnut Presbyterian Church

Well Being LLC

Wellborn Cabinet, Inc.

Western Carolina University

Western Nevada College

Whayne Supply Company Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce WilliamsRDM, Inc.

Wipro

Wisconsin Cast Metals Association

Wood Component Manufacturers Association

Wood Machinery Manufacturers of America

Wood Products Manufacturers Association

Woodwork Career Alliance of North America

Woodworking Machinery Industry Association

Workforce Development, Inc.

Xerox Corporation

Yankton Area Chamber of Commerce

Yankton Area Progressive Growth

York County Economic Alliance

Young Invincibles

Youth Communication

Zanesville-Muskingum County Chamber of Commerce

Zero Zone Inc

3rd & Curry Street Farmers Market