

June __, 2020

The Honorable Chuck Grassley, Chairman
The Honorable Ron Wyden, Ranking Member
Committee on Finance
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Richard Neal, Chairman
The Honorable Kevin Brady, Ranking Member
Committee on Ways and Means
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Please support passage of the Skills Renewal Act (S. 3779/H.R. 7032)

Dear Chairman Grassley, Ranking Member Wyden, Chairman Neal and Ranking Member Brady:

As Congress continues to work on a bipartisan basis to respond to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the nation's economy and workforce, we respectfully urge you to support enactment of the Skills Renewal Act (S. 3779/H.R. 7032), which would promote a positive role for community and technical colleges and other qualified training providers in reskilling the American workforce.

Millions of Americans have lost their jobs as a direct result of COVID-19. As the nation faces an unprecedented challenge to public health and economic security, we have a unique opportunity to help workers gain new skills and advance their careers upon re-entry to the workforce by enrolling in community and technical college education and training programs.

Providing workers with a flexible Skills Training Credit that allows immediate access to a wide range of training and skills development opportunities will benefit American workers, their families, and the economy as the nation returns to work. The Skills Renewal Act creates a flexible Skills Training Credit in the amount of \$4,000 per person to cover the cost of training programs that build skills needed by employers in the coming months.

The Skills Training tax credit may be applied to the cost of training programs anywhere along the postsecondary pipeline – including apprenticeships, stackable credentials, certificate programs, and traditional degree programs. To maximize participation by workers currently living under shelter-in-place orders, distance learning programs will be included.

The Skills Training Credit will be made available to anyone who has lost their job as a result of the coronavirus pandemic in 2020, and may be applied to the costs of training programs in 2020 or 2021.

We appreciate your consideration of the Skills Renewal Act as an important measure to enable community and technical colleges and other qualified training providers to help reskill the post-pandemic workforce.

Sincerely,

Dr. Andrea Mayfield, Executive Director
Mississippi Community College Board, MS

Dr. Glenn DuBois, Chancellor
Virginia Community College System, VA

Dr. Devinder Malhotra, Chancellor
Minnesota State Colleges and
Universities, MN

Dr. Rebecca A. Corbin, President & CEO
National Association for Community
College Entrepreneurship (NACCE), NC

Dr. Bernard J. Sadusky, Executive Director
Maryland Association of Community Colleges, MD

David Daigler, President
Maine Community College System, ME

Patricia Moulton, President
Vermont Technical College, VT

Dr. Jim Murdaugh, President
Tallahassee Community College, FL

Dr. Sunita Cooke, Superintendent/President
MiraCosta College, CA

Mark Mitsui, President
Portland Community College, OR

Dr. Vicki Karolewics, President
Wallace State Community College, AL

Dr. Toni Pendergrass, President
San Juan College, NM

Dr. Federico Zaragoza, President
College of Southern Nevada, NV

Mike Cartney, President
Lake Area Technical Institute, SD

Dr. Jessica Howard, President
Chemeketa Community College, OR

Dr. Tonjua Williams, President
St. Petersburg College, FL

Dr. Scott Ralls, President
Wake Technical Community College, NC

Dr. Mary Thornley, President
Trident Technical College, SC

Dr. Anne M. Kress, President
Northern Virginia Community College, VA

Dr. Daniel DeMarte, President
Jamestown Community College, NY

Dr. Kandi W. Deitemeyer, President
Central Piedmont Community College, NC

Dr. Becky Rowley, President
Santa Fe Community College, NM

Dr. James D. Genandt, President/CEO
Manhattan Area Technical College, KS

Dr. Jack E. Daniels, III, President
Madison Area Technical College, WI

Dr. Johnny Moore, President
Pierpont Community and Technical
College, WV

David A. Sanders, President
City Colleges of Chicago –
Malcolm X College, IL

Dr. Luis Pedraja, President
Quinsigamond Community College, MA

Dr. Patricia Hsieh, President
Hartnell College, CA

Dr. John Richman, President
North Dakota State College of Science, ND

Henry C. Giles, Jr., President
Spartanburg Community College, SC

Dr. Steven R. Gonzales, Chancellor
Maricopa Community College District, AZ

Dr. Margaret Hamilton, President
Lane Community College, OR

Dr. Roger W. Davis, President
Community College of Beaver County, PA

Dr. Jerry L. Buckley, President
Reedley College, CA

Dr. Michael Torrence, President
Motlow State Community College, TN

Dr. Judy L Mitchell, President
Joliet Junior College, IL

Dr. John Rainone, President
Dabney S. Lancaster Community College, VA

Dr. Joianne L. Smith, President
Oakton Community College, IL

Dr. Kristen Westover, President
Mountain Empire Community College, VA

Dr. Brent Knight, President
Lansing Community College, MI

Dr. Laura Douglas, President
Bristol Community College, MA

Dr. Rick MacLennan, President
North Idaho College, ID

Robert Denson, President
Des Moines Area Community College, IA

Dr. Annette Parker, President
South Central College, MN

Dr. Daria Willis, President
Everett Community College, WA

Henry C. Giles, Jr., President
Spartanburg Community College, SC

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Dr. Lori Weyers, President
Northcentral Technical College, WI

Dr. Lisa Skari, President
Mt. Hood Community College, OR

Dr. Ross Tomlin, President
Tillamook Bay Community College, OR

Dr. John L. Cox, President
Cape Cod Community College, MA

Dr. David Roland Finley, President
North Central Michigan College, MI

Dr. James O. Sawyer IV, President
Macomb Community College, MI

Dr. Laurie Chesley, President
Central Oregon Community College, OR