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 postsecondary 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 Weschester** 

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

**VOCADEMY - 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.