

May 15, 2017

The Honorable Virginia Foxx
Chair, Committee on Education and the
Workforce
U.S. House of Representatives
2262 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
Ranking Member, Committee on
Education and the Workforce
U.S. House of Representatives
1201 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Foxx and Ranking Member Scott:

Jamie Dimon
JPMorgan Chase & Co.
Chairman

Wes Bush
Northrop Grumman Corporation

Joshua Bolten
President & CEO

On behalf of the CEO members of Business Roundtable, I write to express our strong support for bipartisan Committee passage of H.R. 2353, The Strengthening Career and Technical Education (CTE) for the 21st Century Act, an update of the Perkins Act. We applaud your leadership in ensuring the introduction of this bill, which is nearly identical to one passed overwhelmingly in the House of Representatives last year.

Business Roundtable continues to support programs that will prepare more Americans for great jobs and give more students access to training that leads to successful careers. The Perkins Act has long been a cornerstone of federal support for job preparation – and this bill modernizes it for the needs of our modern economy.

During the last Congress, Business Roundtable, along with the National Association of Manufacturers and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, identified principles to guide Perkins Act reauthorization:

- CTE must be relevant and meaningful for students.
- Recipients of Perkins funding must be accountable for results.
- The business community must be actively engaged in helping to inform and support CTE at the state, regional and local levels.
- The Perkins Act must provide for state/local innovation and reward excellence.

The legislation your Committee is considering reflects these principles in very powerful ways. The CEO members of Business Roundtable stand ready to support your efforts to move this legislation and improve workforce preparation across the nation. We look forward to continuing to work with you, your staff and other members to update the Perkins Act this year. Again, we thank you for your bipartisan leadership on this critical issue.

Sincerely,



Wes Bush
Chair, Education and Workforce Committee, Business Roundtable
Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and President, Northrop Grumman Corporation