Congress should invest in workforce education and training programs

The U.S. has a middle-skill gap

Middle-skill jobs — jobs that require more than a high school diploma but not a four-year degree — make up 54% of jobs in the U.S. economy. But only 44% of U.S. workers are trained at the middle-skill level.


Congress already agrees on the best ways to close the gap

In 2014, Congress passed the bi-partisan Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, which supports better alignment of federal workforce programs and demand-driven strategies such as sector partnerships, career pathways and apprenticeships.

Federal funding isn’t keeping pace with demand.

Despite bipartisan support, federal funding in key workforce and education programming has declined by $400 million since 2010. The number of individuals in training has declined as a result. We need to restore these investments in skills to build our economy and create economic opportunity.

Fund workforce and CTE state grants at authorized levels in Fiscal Year 2017.

For More Information: Contact Kermit Kaleba, Federal Policy Director, National Skills Coalition at kermitk@nationalskillscostalition.org

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