TOMORROW'S WORKFORCE COALITION

January 18, 2024

The Honorable Jason Smith

Chair, Committee on Ways & Means U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Ron Wyden

Chair, Committee on Finance U.S. Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

RE: Please Include the Freedom to Invest in Tomorrow's Workforce Act (H.R. 1477/S. 722) in the Tax Relief for American Families and Workers Act

Dear Chairman Smith and Chairman Wyden:

Thank you for your steadfast efforts to promote critical tax policies that will benefit families, workers and our economy. The Tomorrow's Workforce Coalition (TWC), which includes nearly 800 nonprofits, businesses and associations, urges you to include the bipartisan, bicameral *Freedom to Invest in Tomorrow's Workforce Act* (H.R. 1477/S. 722) in your *Tax Relief for American Families and Workers Act*. The TWC began in July 2023 and first wrote you on September 27, 2023, to express support for H.R. 1477/S. 722.

The Freedom to Invest in Tomorrow's Workforce Act would expand qualified expenses under 529 savings plans to include postsecondary skills training and credentialing programs, such as occupational licenses and high-quality professional certifications. The bill would shift the paradigm for 529 plans—transforming them from "college savings plans" to "career savings plans." It would provide valuable tax-advantaged resources for students and workers—with or without a college degree—who pursue career growth, mid-career changes or career pathways that diverge from a typical academic degree. Championed by Reps. Rob Wittman and Abigail Spanberger and Sens. Amy Klobuchar and Mike Braun, the bill has strong with 107 House cosponsors (68 Republican, 39 Democratic) and 14 Senate cosponsors (7 Democratic, 7 Republican).

The Joint Committee on Taxation (JCT) scored the bill at \$85 million over 10 years. For context, the SECURE Act (P.L. 116-94) expanded 529 plans to include apprenticeship programs and some K-12 tuition, which will cost \$200 million over the same length of time, according to the JCT.

Thank you for your service to our country and for your consideration to include the *Freedom to Invest in Tomorrow's Workforce Act* in your critical tax package. Please email Jeff Evans (jevans@asaecenter.org), director of public policy for the American Society of Association Executives, if you or your staff have questions.

Sincerely,

The Tomorrow's Workforce Coalition (Member Roster – Updated 1.18.2024; 790 organizations)

CC

The Honorable Richard Neal

Ranking Member, Committee on Ways & Means U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Mike Crapo

Ranking Member, Committee on Finance U.S. Senate