Augst XX, 2023

The Honorable [Representative’s first and last name]

Rep.’s office address

Dear [Representative / Senator First and Last name]:

On behalf of [your organization’s name here] we write to express our profound concerns regarding the recently introduced FY24 House Labor-HHS-ED appropriations bill. [Your organization’s name] [one sentence description of your organization’s mission] bolstering [your organization’s location] local economy. This proposal, if enacted, would have a devastating impact on the publicly funded workforce system and the workers, learners, and employers it helps support in [your organization’s location].

If implemented, this bill would have an immediate and substantial impact on the nation’s publicly funded workforce system by rescinding $712 million of FY23 formula funding from Adult Employment and Training activities provided by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). In addition, the bill proposes to terminate a number of critically important programs also authorized by WIOA, such as Job Corps and WIOA Youth activities. Eliminating more than 60 percent, or $3.6B, of WIOA funding will hinder access to career services for millions, end employment and training opportunities for almost half a million, and extinguish skilled talent pipelines employers depend upon.

In [your organization’s location], [your organization’s name] would be unable to provide job training and employment services to [# of WIOA youth your organization serves per year] youth and [# of WIOA Adults your organization serves per year] adult job seekers. As massive federal infrastructure projects commence and the widespread adoption of emerging technologies redefine in-demand skill sets, divesting in workforce development programs will only exacerbate the skilled labor shortage and stunt local economic growth in [your organization’s location].

Maintaining, at a minimum, federal investments in workforce development, as proposed on a bipartisan basis in the Senate, is vital to the health of [your organization’s location]’s economy. This proposal, if enacted, would hurt workers, learners, and employers, undermining [your organization’s location]’s economic competitiveness. [Your organization’s name] thanks you for considering this bill’s severe impacts and invites you to contact [Name, Title (email)] should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

[Your Signature]

[Your Name and Title]