

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

March 19, 2018

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and  
Human Services and Education  
2358 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and  
Human Services and Education  
1016 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

We are writing to respectfully request strong funding for the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act (Perkins) in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations bill. While we understand that the committee is faced with difficult choices to ensure fiscal responsibility, we urge you to consider the positive impact that Perkins Act funding has on millions of career and technical education (CTE) students across the United States, as well as its value to the business community, which relies on these programs for a skilled workforce.

While we are pleased that Perkins funding has been maintained at \$1.125 billion since FY2014, it has not kept pace with the growing demand for career and technical education, resulting in a high number of students being placed on waiting lists for CTE courses. Moreover, any reduction in Perkins funding will result in lost job opportunities for young workers and adults looking to reenter the workforce.

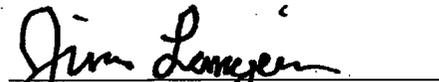
The House Education and Workforce Committee has long recognized the importance of strong and independent Perkins funding. In the 113th Congress, Perkins was intentionally exempted from efforts to consolidate program funding under the bipartisan Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. In 2015, CTE programs were explicitly left out of the Every Student Succeeds Act in recognition of the importance of direct and targeted investment in CTE. Furthermore, this Congress, the House passed H.R. 2353, the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Act, a bill to reauthorize the Perkins Act, by a voice vote.

We are hopeful your Subcommittee will continue this bipartisan commitment to Perkins. As CTE programs evolve to meet the needs of employers in high-wage, high-skill, and high-demand career fields, such as engineering, information technology, and healthcare, it is more important than ever that we provide robust federal support for these programs.

CTE works to ensure that students have the academic, technical, and employability skills necessary for true college and career readiness, and Perkins funding is key to their continued

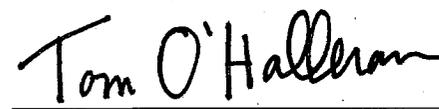
success. Therefore, we respectfully urge your strong support for the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act in FY2019. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

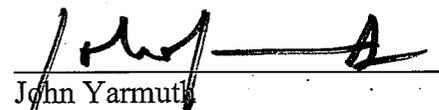
Sincerely,

  
James R. Langevin

  
Vicente Gonzalez

  
Rob Bishop

  
Tom O'Halleran

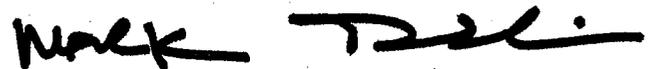
  
John Yarmuth

  
Ann McLane Kuster

  
Josh Gottheimer

  
Mia Love

  
Glenn 'GT' Thompson

  
Mark DeSaulnier

  
Alan Lowenthal

  
Eric Swalwell

  
Donald M. Payne, Jr.

  
Paul Mitchell

  
Michelle Lujan Grisham

  
Elizabeth H. Esty

David Scott  
David Scott

Thomas R. Suzzo  
Thomas R. Suzzo

Jimmy Panetta  
Jimmy Panetta

Mike Thompson  
Mike Thompson

Frank Pallone, Jr.  
Frank Pallone, Jr.

Val Butler Demings  
Val Butler Demings

Anna G. Eshoo  
Anna G. Eshoo

Ruben Kihuenn  
Ruben Kihuenn

A. Donald McEachin  
A. Donald McEachin

Will Hurd  
Will Hurd

Elise M. Stefanik  
Elise M. Stefanik

Pramila Jayapal  
Pramila Jayapal

Jody Hice  
Jody Hice

Ryan A. Costello  
Ryan A. Costello

Jim Renacci  
Jim Renacci

Barry Loudermilk  
Barry Loudermilk

John Lewis  
John Lewis

Jacky Rosen  
Jacky Rosen

Ralph Abraham, M.D.

Jason Lewis

Cedric L. Richmond

Colleen Hanabus

Denny Heck

Rick W. Allen

Charlie Crist

Jamie Raskin

Earl L. 'Buddy' Carter

Joseph P. Kennedy, III

Filemon Vela

Suzanne Bonamici

Tom MacArthur

Raja Krishnamoorthi

Lloyd Smucker

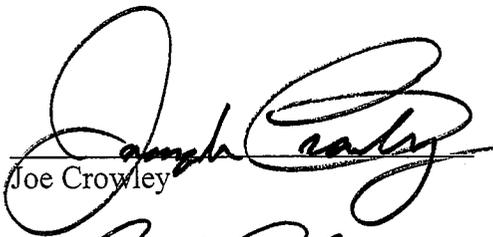
Mike Gallagher

Cheri Bustos

Steve Stivers



A. Drew Ferguson, D.M.D.



Joe Crowley



Lois Frankel



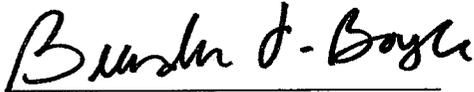
Rod Blum



Earl Blumenauer



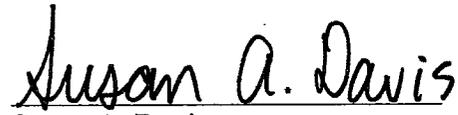
Scott H. Peters



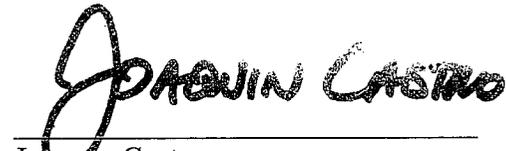
Brendan Boyle



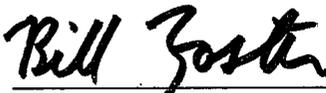
Brenda L. Lawrence



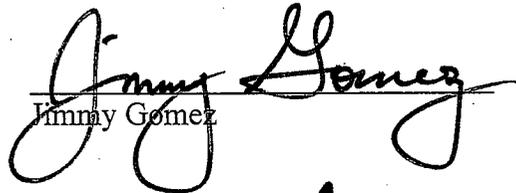
Susan A. Davis



Joaquin Castro



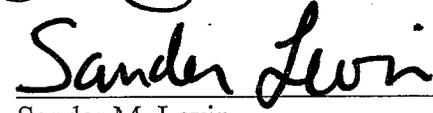
Bill Foster



Jimmy Gomez



Jim Himes



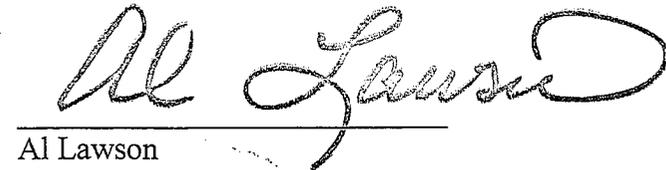
Sander M. Levin



Stephanie Murphy



Nanette Diaz Barragan

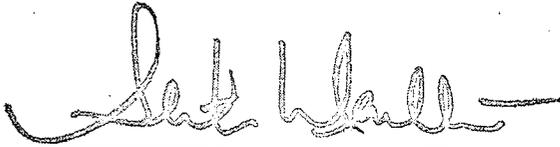


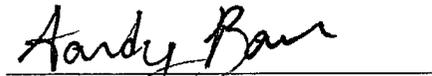
Al Lawson



Zoe Lofgren

  
Carlos Curbelo

  
Seth Moulton

  
Andy Barr

  
Ami Bera, M.D.

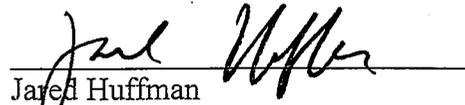
  
Tulsi Gabbard

  
Ron Kind

  
Mark Takano

  
James Comer

  
Dave Loebsack

  
Jared Huffman

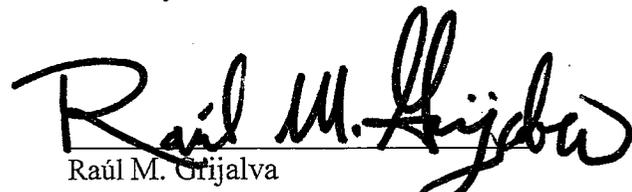
  
Ed Perlmutter

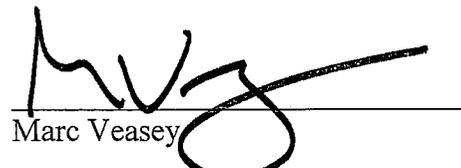
  
Darren Soto

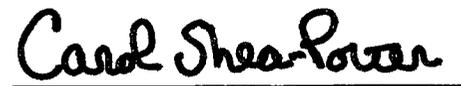
  
Bradley S. Schneider

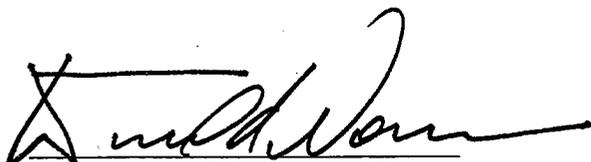
  
John B. Larson

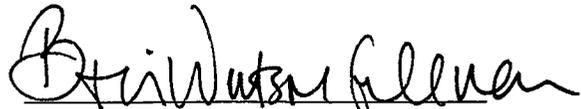
  
Anthony G. Brown

  
Raúl M. Grijalva

  
Marc Veasey

  
Carol Shea-Porter

  
Donald Norcross

  
Bonnie Watson Coleman

  
Juan Vargas

  
Grace F. Napolitano

  
John J. Faso

  
John Katko

  
Adriano Espaillat

  
John K. Delaney

  
Mike Kelly

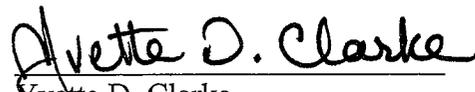
  
Kevin Cramer

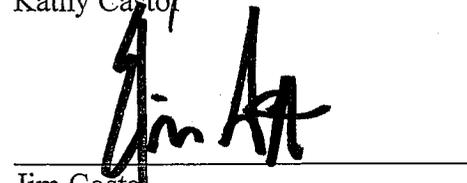
  
Rob Woodall

  
Kyristen Sinema

  
Lou Barletta

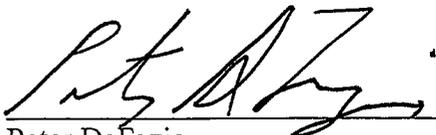
  
Kathy Castor

  
Yvette D. Clarke

  
Jim Costa

  
Diana DeGette

  
Rick Larsen

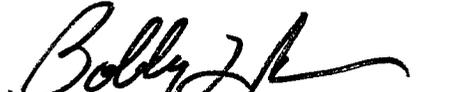
  
Peter DeFazio

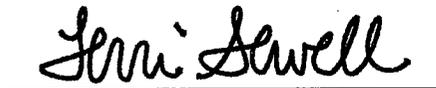
  
André Carson

  
Danny K. Davis

  
Chellie Pingree

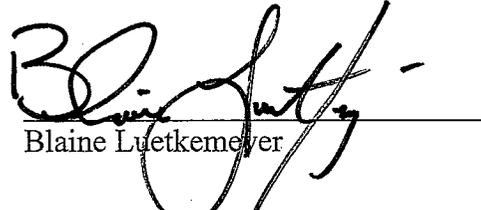
  
Greg Walden

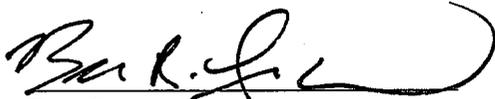
  
Bobby L. Rush

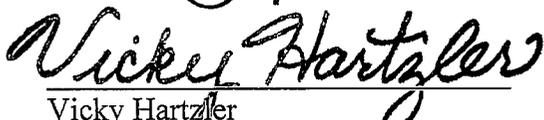
  
Terri A. Sewell

  
Collin C. Peterson

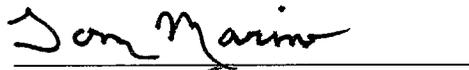
  
Maxine Waters

  
Blaine Luetkemeyer

  
Ben Ray Lujan

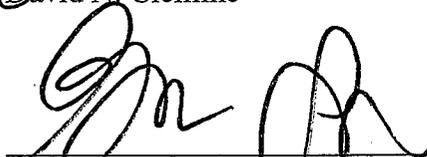
  
Vicky Hartzler

  
Gerald E. Connolly

  
Tom Marino

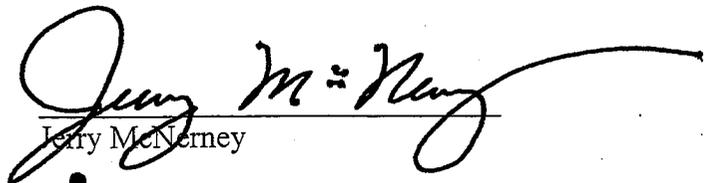
  
David N. Cicilline

  
Adam Kinzinger

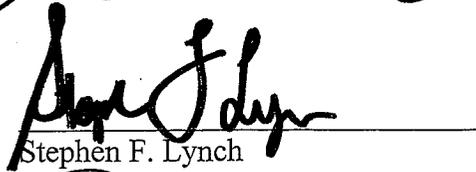
  
Gwen S. Moore

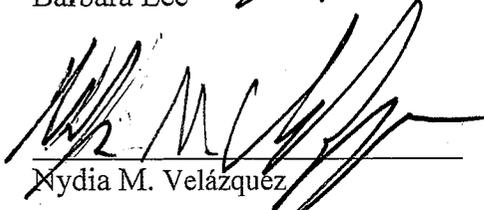
  
Keith Ellison

  
Adam Smith

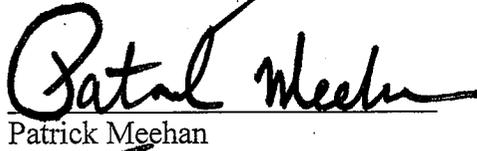
  
Jerry McNerney

  
Barbara Lee

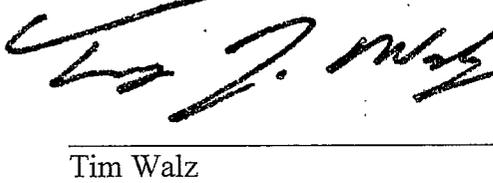
  
Stephen F. Lynch

  
Nydia M. Velázquez

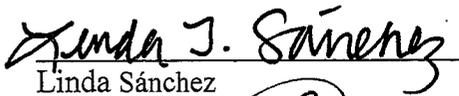
  
Peter Welch

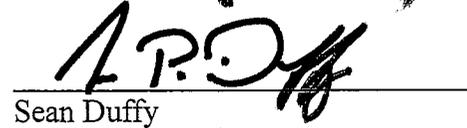
  
Patrick Meehan

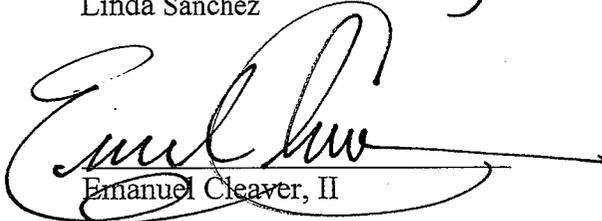
  
Carolyn B. Maloney

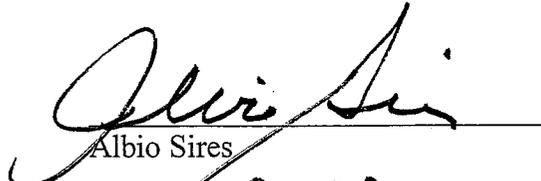
  
Tim Walz

  
Don Young

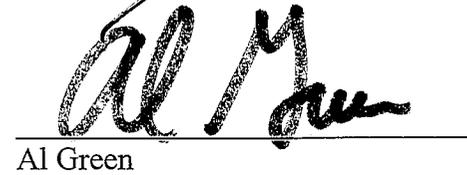
  
Linda Sánchez

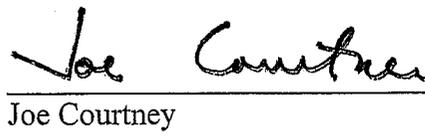
  
Sean Duffy

  
Emanuel Cleaver, II

  
Albio Sires

  
Daniel W. Lipinski

  
Al Green

  
Joe Courtney

  
Alcee L. Hastings

*Richard M. Nolan*

Richard M. Nolan

*Jan Schakowsky*

Jan Schakowsky

*Michael R. Turner*

Michael R. Turner

*Bill Pascrell Jr*

Bill Pascrell, Jr.

*Chris Smith*

Christopher H. Smith

*Steve Cohen*

Steve Cohen

*Gregorio Kili Camacho Sablan*

Gregorio Kili Camacho Sablan

*C. A. Dutch Ruppertsberger*

C. A. Dutch Ruppertsberger

*Brad R. Wenstrup*

Brad Wenstrup

*Judy Chu*

Judy Chu

*Frank A. LoBiondo*

Frank A. LoBiondo

*Kurt Schrader*

Kurt Schrader

*John Garamendi*

John Garamendi

*Suzan DelBene*

Suzan DelBene

*Mike Coffman*

Mike Coffman

*Frederica Wilson*

Frederica Wilson

*Ron Estes*

Ron Estes

*Brian Higgins*

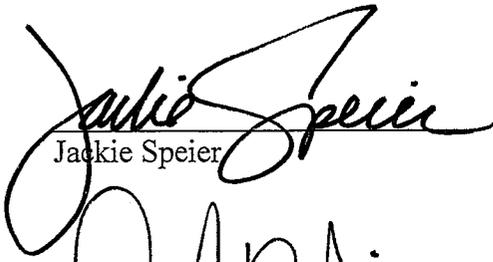
Brian Higgins

*Paul S. Tonko*

Paul Tonko

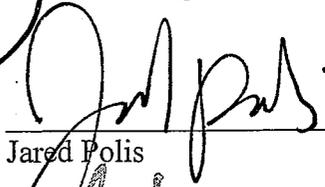
*Dina Titus*

Dina Titus



Jackie Speier

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Louise M. Slaughter



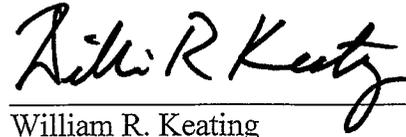
Jared Polis



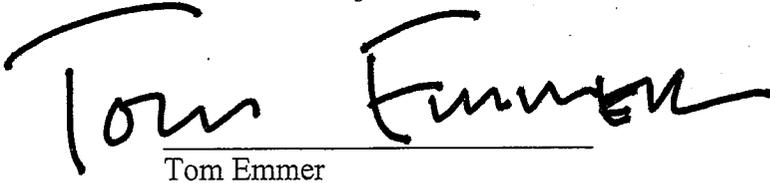
Tony Cárdenas



Salud O. Carbajal



William R. Keating



Tom Emmer



Lisa Blunt Rochester