

ANGIE CRAIG
2ND DISTRICT, MINNESOTA

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COMMITTEE ON ENERGY
AND COMMERCE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATION & TECHNOLOGY
SUBCOMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2302

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMODITY EXCHANGES,
ENERGY AND CREDIT

SUBCOMMITTEE ON GENERAL FARM COMMODITIES
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SUBCOMMITTEE ON LIVESTOCK
AND FOREIGN AGRICULTURE

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT,
INVESTIGATIONS & REGULATIONS

April 20, 2022

The Honorable Patty Murray
428 Senate Dirksen Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard Burr
428 Senate Dirksen Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Bobby Scott
2176 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Virginia Foxx
2101 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Murray, Chairman Scott, Ranking Member Burr, and Ranking Member Foxx:

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to the American people. I write to you today related to your role on the Conference Committee for the *America COMPETES Act* and *United States Innovation and Competition Act of 2021* (USICA). I was proud to vote for the House passage of *America COMPETES* and look forward to a conferenced version of this important jobs and competitiveness package.

I urge the continued inclusion of my bipartisan *Supporting Apprenticeship Colleges Act*, included in the *America COMPETES Act* in Division J, Title IX, in the final package. This vital program would help to bolster America's skilled workforce by supporting current and future students joining the trades through community grants to expand and support outreach to potential students and employers.

Federally accredited apprentice programs have often been left out of higher education grant programs despite the extraordinary work they do to prepare students for high-demand jobs. Many of the common barriers for low-income students, such as childcare and support for first-generation students, continue to go unaddressed.

As our nation finally begins to recover from the many challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is essential that everyone can find quality education that leads to the stable employment they deserve. Our workers require sound career and technical education to better play their vital roles in improving workforce productivity. We must invest in our skilled trade workers to promote a stronger economy and ensure the well-being of our constituents.

Thank you for your consideration.

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Sincerely,



Angie Craig
Member of Congress

CC:

The Honorable Eddie Bernice Johnson
The Honorable Zoe Lofgren
The Honorable Suzanne Bonamici
The Honorable Ami Bera
The Honorable Haley Stevens
The Honorable Jamaal Bowman
The Honorable Bill Foster
The Honorable Frank Lucas
The Honorable Randy Weber
The Honorable Brian Babin
The Honorable Michael Waltz
The Honorable Mike Garcia
The Honorable Frank Pallone
The Honorable Anna Eshoo
The Honorable Jan Schakowsky
The Honorable Doris Matsui
The Honorable Paul Tonko
The Honorable Lisa Blunt Rochester
The Honorable Darren Soto
The Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers
The Honorable Larry Bucshon
The Honorable Buddy Carter
The Honorable Jeff Duncan
The Honorable Dan Crenshaw
The Honorable Greg Meeks

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The Honorable Chrissy Houlahan
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The Honorable Adam Kinzinger
The Honorable Michael McCaul
The Honorable Steve Chabot
The Honorable Ann Wagner
The Honorable Mark Green
The Honorable Young Kim
The Honorable Richard Neal
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The Honorable Veronica Escobar
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The Honorable Yvette Herrell
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The Honorable Pat Toomey
The Honorable Gary Peters
The Honorable Rob Portman
The Honorable Chuck Grassley
The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
The Honorable Jon Tester

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The Honorable Richard Shelby
The Honorable Tammy Baldwin
The Honorable Martin Heinrich
The Honorable John Hickenlooper
The Honorable Raphael Warnock
The Honorable John Cornyn
The Honorable Todd Young
The Honorable Jerry Moran