

[DATE]

**The Honorable Ron Wyden**  
*Chair, Committee on Finance*  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

**The Honorable Mike Crapo**  
*Ranking Member, Committee on Finance*  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

**The Honorable Jason Smith**  
*Chair, Committee on Ways & Means*  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

**The Honorable Richard Neal**  
*Ranking Member, Committee on Ways & Means*  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

*RE: Support for the Bipartisan, Bicameral Freedom to Invest in Tomorrow's Workforce Act*

**Dear Chairman Wyden, Chairman Smith, Ranking Member Crapo and Ranking Member Neal:**

The Tomorrow's Workforce Coalition, which includes XX member organizations that help create economic and career opportunities, supports the bipartisan, bicameral Freedom to Invest in Tomorrow's Workforce Act (S. 722 / H.R. 1477). Our Coalition is grateful to **Senators Klobuchar and Braun** and **Representatives Wittman and Spanberger** for introducing this beneficial workforce development policy.

**The Coalition respectfully urges you to approve the Freedom to Invest in Tomorrow's Workforce Act** as soon as possible so that families and workers can better access the skills training and credentials that help build strong, resilient careers.

As you know, 529 plans are state-sponsored education savings accounts that are exempt from federal taxes if funds are used to pay for qualified education expenses. These include college, graduate or professional degrees; education programs from Title IV accredited institutions; registered apprenticeships; and certain K-12 tuition and student loan repayments. Under current law, 529 plan **beneficiaries cannot use funds to obtain or maintain recognized postsecondary credentials, including professional certifications, licenses and other valuable training or credentials.**

The Freedom to Invest in Tomorrow's Workforce Act would expand qualified expenses under 529 plans to include postsecondary training and credentialing programs, such as licenses and nongovernmental certifications. It would also provide valuable tax-advantaged resources for workers—with or without a college degree—who pursue career growth, mid-career changes or alternative career pathways.

The bill would shift the paradigm for 529 plans—transforming them from “college savings plans” to “career savings plans.” Families could save money—utilizing the unique tax advantages that 529 plans offer—for beneficiaries at any stage of their careers and at any education level to boost career prospects and earning potential.<sup>1</sup> Traditional contributors to 529 plans, such as parents and grandparents, cannot know if a traditional two- or four-year college education will be the best or preferred option when a beneficiary's account is established. This legislation would provide flexibility for 529 beneficiaries to use their plan funds to cover whichever quality educational, training or credentialing programs that best fit their skills development, professional growth and career path.

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<sup>1</sup> Data show that certification and licensure reduce wage gaps by as much as 43 percent. See [University of Chicago Human Capital and Economic Opportunity Global Working Group](#).

Thank you for your service to our country and for your attention to the Freedom to Invest in Tomorrow's Workforce Act. Please email Jeff Evans ([jevans@asaecenter.org](mailto:jevans@asaecenter.org)), ASAE director of public policy, if you or your staff have questions.

Sincerely,

*Member Organizations of the Tomorrow's Workforce Coalition*

[LIST OF ORGANIZATIONS]

**CC**

**The Honorable Michael Bennet**

*Chair, Subcommittee on Taxation and  
IRS Oversight*  
Committee on Finance  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

**The Honorable John Thune**

*Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Taxation and  
IRS Oversight*  
Committee on Finance  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

**The Honorable Mike Kelly**

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

**The Honorable Mike Thompson**

*Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Tax Policy*  
Committee on Ways & Means  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

**ENCLOSURE**

- [S. 722 bill text](#)
- [H.R. 1477 bill text](#)