

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

Support Job Creation and Workforce Development

Join the Congressional Career & Technical Education Caucus

Dear Colleague:

Career and Technical Education (CTE) is a tried and true solution for creating jobs, retraining workers, and ensuring that students of all ages are career-and college-ready. Because of CTE's importance to a competitive workforce, we have reorganized the Congressional Career and Technical Education Caucus to highlight the importance of CTE in preparing a well-educated and skilled workforce during the 113th Congress.

According to the most recent data from the Office of Vocational and Adult Education, approximately 12 million students participated in secondary and postsecondary CTE programs during the 2010-2011 school year. In every congressional district, CTE programs play a vital role in ensuring that skilled workers are capable of remaining competitive in high-wage, high-skill, and high-demand career fields. These fields include STEM disciplines, nursing, allied health, construction, information technology, energy, cybersecurity, sustainability, and other areas that keep our nation competitive in the global economy.

In a Society for Human Resource Management poll of employers, more than half reported they were unable to recruit workers for open positions, and human resource professionals predict a lack of workforce readiness will impact employers for years to come. The skilled trades are the hardest jobs to fill in the United States, with recent data citing 550,000 jobs open in the trade, transportation and utilities sector and 246,000 jobs open in manufacturing. CTE programs assist businesses in closing the skills gap on a daily basis, by training a competitive workforce to fulfill these 21st Century demands.

CTE programs exist in every Congressional District; therefore we invite you to join the bipartisan Congressional Career and Technical Education Caucus. Together we can improve America's competitiveness and help facilitate job opportunities for our constituents. To join the Congressional CTE Caucus, or for more information, please contact Matthew Brennan (matthew.brennan@mail.house.gov) in Rep. Thompson's office or Sam Morgante (sam.morgante@mail.house.gov) in Rep. Langevin's office.

Sincerely,



Rep. Glenn 'GT' Thompson
Co-Chair, Congressional CTE Caucus



Rep. James R. Langevin
Co-Chair, Congressional CTE Caucus