



May 1, 2020

The Honorable Bobby Scott
Chairman, Committee on Education and Labor
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Scott:

On behalf of the nation's 1,050 community colleges, the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) and the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) heartily support the Relaunching America's Workforce Act.

Community colleges are prepared to play a vital role in helping the nation recover from this crisis. Your legislation will greatly assist that endeavor by authorizing substantial resources for vital workforce and career and technical education programs and modifying how those programs operate so that they can better help workers through this emergency.

We are particularly excited about the new Community Colleges and Industry Partnership Grants, which will provide \$2 billion over four years for the creation and expansion of community college workforce education programs. Under the program, community colleges will partner with businesses, state agencies and other key entities. The grants will assist individual institutions and consortia of community colleges working together to help workers gain the skills they need.

Community colleges are also heavily involved in other programs that are buttressed by your legislation, including the Carl D. Perkins Act, Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act and Adult Basic Education programs. These initiatives address distinct yet closely integrated aspects of the workforce and the education they need to improve their financial situations and bolster the economy. Additional funding for these programs is vital to our economic recovery.

We look forward to working with you to help enact this legislation. Thank you for your leadership.

Sincerely,

Walter G. Bumphus, Ph.D.
President and CEO, AACC

J. Noah Brown
President and CEO, ACCT