



THE WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS GROUP

EMPath (Economic Mobility Pathways)
Massachusetts AFL-CIO
Massachusetts Business Roundtable

Massachusetts Communities Action Network
Massachusetts Workforce Board Association
SkillWorks: Partners for a Productive Workforce



October 30, 2017

The Honorable Stanley C. Rosenberg
& Members of the Massachusetts Senate
Massachusetts State House
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Mr. President and Members of the Senate:

We are writing to thank you for passing S2109 to support job pipeline training through the Workforce Competitiveness Trust Fund. We appreciate your unwavering support and advocacy for effective workforce training programs that help people find jobs in diverse industry sectors across Massachusetts.

The Workforce Solutions Group, which includes representatives from the AFL-CIO, workforce professionals, community-based organizations and the Massachusetts Business Roundtable, worked closely with Associated Industries of Massachusetts and legislative leaders on this bill.

We support and applaud the tribute to the late Senator Ken Donnelly, who filed this legislation to help unemployed and underemployed people develop the skills needed to fill open jobs. Our coalition also supports the inclusion of a match, subject to appropriation, from the state to this employer funded effort of 5% or up to \$1.1 million a year. With the inclusion of common sense pay-for-performance language, added by the Senate and supported by our coalition, we believe this legislation will help job seekers and enable employers to find the right talent to fuel economic growth in Massachusetts.

We appreciate your strong leadership and diligent support for high quality workforce training programs linked to good jobs. We look forward to helping thousands of additional Massachusetts workers and businesses meet their shared goals of increasing employment and strengthening our competitive edge in the global marketplace.

Thank you for your continued support!

Sincerely,

Katherine Mainzer
Executive Director
Workforce Solutions Group

John Regan
Executive Vice President
Associated Industries of MA

Christopher Kealey
Deputy Director
MA Business Roundtable