



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

February 14, 2018

The Honorable Jeffrey Sánchez
Chairman, House Ways & Means
Massachusetts State House, Room 243
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Chairman Sánchez:

We write to express our strong support for H.3804 to support job pipeline training through the Workforce Competitiveness Trust Fund. We appreciate your 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.

H.3804 would allow up to five percent of the state's Workforce Training Fund, a \$22M fund supported by employer-backed contributions, to be used for pipeline training through the Workforce Competitiveness Trust Fund. Managed by Commonwealth Corporation, this Fund has a proven track record of success in placing job seekers in new positions at companies across the state. Our coalition also supports the inclusion of a state match, subject to appropriation, of five percent or up to \$1.1 million a year. With the inclusion of common sense pay-for-performance language, 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 economy.

Thank you for your consideration and continued support!

Sincerely,

Katherine Mainzer
Executive Director
Workforce Solutions Group

John R. Regan
Executive Vice President
Associated Industries of MA

Carolyn Ryan
Senior Vice President, Policy & Research
Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce

Christopher Kealey
Deputy Director
MA Business Roundtable

CC: House Speaker Robert DeLeo