

Freedom to Invest in Tomorrow's Workforce Act

More than 900 organizations - including trade associations, professional societies and certification organizations - operating in more than 50 industries have come together to form the Tomorrow's Workforce Coalition.

The Coalition supports the bipartisan, bicameral Freedom to Invest in Tomorrow's Workforce Act (H.R. 1151 / S. 756), which was reintroduced in February in the House and the Senate. The legislation would expand qualified expenses under 529 savings plans to include postsecondary training and credentialing, such as high-quality professional certifications and licenses. The bill would provide valuable tax-advantaged resources for families, students and workers—with or without a college degree—who pursue career growth, mid-career changes or alternate pathways. The bill's cost is \$85 million over 10 years, according to the Joint Committee on Taxation.

Senate Champions (S. 756)

Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-MN) Sen. Roger Marshall (R-KS)

Senate Cosponsors in 118th Congress

Sens. Britt, Collins, Duckworth, Ernst, Fetterman, Graham, Heinrich, Hickenlooper, Hirono, Hyde-Smith, King, Kelly, Lankford, Manchin, Marshall, Moran, Rosen, Schmitt, Tuberville, Welch

House Champions (H.R. 1151)

Rep. Rob Wittman (R-VA) Rep. Steven Horsford (D-NV)

House Cosponsors

150 Cosponsors in the 118th Congress: 90 Republicans & 60 Democrats Ways & Means: Reps. Carey, Horsford, Larson, Panetta

H.R. 1151 and S. 756 would empower Americans of any educational background, skill level or age, and would benefit all industries and professions that rely on employees with specialized and high-quality training or credentials. It would transform 529s from college savings plans to career savings plans; the bill would encourage more workers and families to save funds on a tax-preferred basis for career options that best suit the plan beneficiary.

What are 529 Savings Plans?

A 529 plan is a state-sponsored education savings vehicle that is exempt from federal taxes if funds are used to pay for qualified education expenses. These include college, graduate or professional degrees; programs from Title IV-accredited institutions; registered apprenticeships; up to \$10,000/year in K-12 tuition; and certain student loan repayments.

What's the Issue? Training & Credentials are Ineligible for 529s

America's workforce is comprised mostly of middle-skill jobs that require more than a high school education but not a bachelor's degree, according to the National Skills Coalition. A differentiator amid the 21st century workforce is postsecondary credentialing—for workers with or without a two- or four-year degree.

Staff Contacts & More Information

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The Freedom to Invest in Tomorrow's Workforce Act Would Provide Economic Flexibility and Opportunity

Workers and families could use 529 plans to help cover:

- Credential program tuition, including prep courses;
- Testing fees, including practice exams;
- Required books and equipment;
- Continuing education and credential renewal; and
- Other charges required to obtain and maintain a postsecondary credential.