

June 2, 2014

The Honorable Tom Harkin
Chairman
Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pension Committee
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Lamar Alexander
Chairman
Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pension Committee
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray
Chairman
Senate Budget Committee
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Johnny Isakson
Chairman
Senate Employment and Workforce Safety Subcommittee
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20150

The Honorable John Kline
Chairman
House Education and Workforce Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable George Miller
Ranking Member
House Education and Workforce Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Virginia Foxx
Chairman
Higher Education and Workforce Training
U.S. House of Representatives
Senate Subcommittee
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Ruben Hinojosa
Ranking Member
House Higher Education and Workforce Training
Subcommittee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Members of Congress:

On behalf of Siemens and its over 53,000 U.S. employees, we applaud you for reaching a bipartisan, bicameral agreement to revise and improve the Workforce Investment Act. The newly created Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act is an important step toward better aligning federal workforce programs. We believe that this is a strong effort to improve the country's chances of addressing the skills gap and building a workforce that can compete and succeed in a global economy. The legislation takes a positive step by recognizing that real-world training is a catalyst to ensuring that individuals have the necessary skills to take advantage of the jobs that exist today and in the future.

Siemens believes that effective workforce training efforts require strong public-private partnership. When Siemens significantly increased its manufacturing capacity in Charlotte, NC, we relied on the cooperation of the local workforce investment board, Central Piedmont Community College and the state to develop the necessary workforce to meet the large employment demands required to expand our manufacturing footprint. The bill provides an opportunity to scale up the type of partnership that Siemens has created in Charlotte and other manufacturing locations. We are hopeful that the Senate, followed by the House will take immediate action to pass this important, bipartisan legislation.

Sincerely,



Eric A. Spiegel