WE CAN’T COMPETE IF WE CUT — For nearly two decades, we’ve cut federal investments in our workforce. Those cuts have left businesses struggling to find skilled workers and left workers without pathways to better paying jobs. Our rapidly changing economy requires investing in education and workforce programs now and in the future — but President Trump’s budget doubles down on these cuts and will make it harder for business and workers to get the skills they need to compete.

Congress should:

INVEST IN WORKFORCE PROGRAMS. In 2014, Congress overwhelmingly approved WIOA – legislation that modernizes our workforce system and makes it more responsive to industry. But state grants have been cut by 22% since 2009 and by 43% since 2001.

INVEST IN CTE PROGRAMS. Congress is poised to reauthorize the Carl D. Perkins Act, which funds secondary and postsecondary CTE programs. But funding for Perkins has been cut by 17% since 2009 and by 34% since 2001.

INVEST IN ADULT EDUCATION. There are more than 36 million Americans with low basic skills, including 24 million who are currently in the workforce. But funding for adult education has been cut by 6% since 2009 and by 21% since 2001.

INVEST IN AMERICA’S WORKFORCE. www.nationalskillscoalition.org