



JOBS AND CAREERS COALITION

PRODUCTS & ACTIVITIES 2023

JCC's principal focus in 2023 was working with Hill staff as they prepared legislation reauthorizing the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA.) That work bore fruit in December 2023 when House Education and Workforce Committee leadership introduced H.R. 6655, *A Stronger Workforce for America Act*, and the full committee voted overwhelmingly to send the legislation to the House floor for a vote. Among JCC's activities in 2023:

WIOA

The coalition hosted two virtual meetings – one in late May and a second in mid-December – with House Education and Workforce majority staff, who led the drafting of the new bill and spearheaded negotiations with minority staff. In May, majority staff briefed the coalition on initial thinking about the draft and solicited input from the associations gathered around the table. In December, majority staff presented the final legislative package and briefed coalition members on what to expect in weeks ahead.

The coalition conducted an online survey of employers designed to help guide the committee as it drafted the employer provisions of the new legislation. Coalition leadership facilitated the efforts of coalition member associations as they sent the survey to their members and encouraged them to respond. Some 66 individual employers answered 16 questions about their experience using the public workforce system and drawing down state funding for employer-provided job training. See the results [here](#) and [here](#).

Coalition leadership met privately with committee staff a half dozen additional times, conveying input culled from coalition members – both Washington representatives and small and medium-sized employers.

The coalition provided committee staff with an array of technical assistance, including policy recommendations and employer input compiled for congressional staff during



previous debates about WIOA. See for example this 2021 [memo](#) to the Senate HELP Committee and this 2022 [comment](#) sent to the US Department of Labor.

Other legislation and coalition activity

In July, the coalition sent a [letter](#) to the Senate HELP Committee providing employer input on five pieces of pending legislation, including funding for apprenticeship and expansion of federal Pell Grants to cover short workforce-related programs offered at community colleges.

In summer 2023, the coalition launched a new [website](#). Initial design was based on the design of the old webpage embedded in the Opportunity America website. In 2024, the coalition plans to engage a professional firm to refresh and update the design.

As part of its ongoing efforts to keep coalition members informed and up to date, in December 2023, coalition leadership provided members with an annotated [list](#) of workforce-related legislation pending on the Hill.