



PRODUCTS & ACTIVITIES 2024

JCC's principal focus in 2024 was working with House and Senate staff as they advanced proposals to reauthorize the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). These efforts bore fruit in November 2024 when House and Senate leadership agreed on a bipartisan draft, the *Stronger Workforce for America Act*, that they expect to enact as law before the end of the year. The coalition worked closely with committee staff in both chambers to get the bill over the finish line.

Among JCC's activities in 2024:

WIOA

- The coalition continued its close collaboration, begun in 2023, with House Education and Workforce staff drafting legislation to reauthorize the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. JCC members sent two letters to the Hill – one in [January](#) and a second in [April](#) – expressing strong support for a bipartisan draft that was approved overwhelmingly first in committee and then on the floor.
- The coalition hosted two virtual meetings with the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions minority staffers who led the drafting of a new proposal, different from the House version, to reauthorize and reform the public workforce system. Staffers briefed the coalition on their evolving thinking and solicited input from associations gathered around the table.

- The coalition provided HELP committee staff with an array of technical assistance, including policy recommendations and employer input compiled for congressional staff during previous debates about WIOA in 2021, 2022 and 2023.
- Coalition leadership met privately with HELP committee staff on several occasions, conveying input from coalition members.
- In July, the coalition submitted substantial [comments](#) on a bipartisan draft of the Senate bill. Several of our most important recommendations, including objections to a provision that would have prevented many employers from collaborating with the workforce system, were subsequently adopted by the committee.

Other legislation and coalition activity

- In February, the coalition sent a [letter](#) to House leadership expressing our strong support for the *Bipartisan Workforce Pell Act*, expanding the federal Pell Grant program to provide financial aid for learners in short, job-focused postsecondary education and training programs.
- In March, the coalition sent detailed [comments](#) the US Department of Labor expressing concerns about a proposed rule that would have made the national apprenticeship system less flexible and more bureaucratic, putting it out of reach for many small and medium-size employers interested in sponsoring registered earn-and-learn programs. The rule was withdrawn in late November 2024.
- In May, JCC monitored and analyzed Dept. of Education revisions to the gainful employment (GE) minimums for Title IV training program financial assistance.
- In September, JCC members reviewed and backed House Education & Workforce Committee majority opposition to Dept. of Education changes to the State Plan Guide and Consolidated Annual Report for the Career and Technical Education Act (Perkins V).
- In late summer 2024, coalition leadership launched an effort to reconstruct and update the group's website. The work was completed in early fall, and the website went live at jcccoalition.org.