

**NCSL STANDING COMMITTEE ON
LABOR AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

POLICY DIRECTIVES AND RESOLUTIONS

**2024 NCSL SUMMIT LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY
AUG. 5-7**

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1 **COMMITTEE: LABOR AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

2 **POLICY: APPRENTICESHIP**

3 **TYPE: POLICY DIRECTIVE**

4 **SPONSORS: SEN. KAREN KEISER**

5
6 WHEREAS, Employers continue to need highly skilled employees to fill jobs in nearly all
7 sectors in the economy,

8
9 WHEREAS, the potential for an expanded registered apprenticeship program in the
10 United States can help workers reconnect to the economy while enhancing their skills
11 and opportunities, and

12
13 WHEREAS, innovative new registered apprenticeship programs in non-traditional
14 economic sectors such as health care, technology, and personal services will open
15 pathways for increased diversity and inclusion in those occupations, and

16
17 WHEREAS, the traditional “earn while you learn,” approach of registered apprenticeship
18 will reduce economic barriers to higher skilled occupations that currently are limited to
19 paid tuition and fee based courses, and

20
21 WHEREAS, the traditional “on-the-job” learning requirements of registered
22 apprenticeship are a successful learning style for many students who prefer learning
23 skills through hands-on experience in addition to tradition classroom coursework, and

24
25 WHEREAS, providing incentives to employers to participate in registered apprenticeship
26 programs in non-traditional sectors through tax policies and apprentice utilization
27 agreements, when combined with long-term employer commitments, will establish a
28 sustainable future for apprenticeship programs, and

29

1 WHEREAS, the success of traditional registered apprenticeship programs that are
2 financially sustainable and jointly managed create tens of thousands high wage and high
3 skilled jobs to ensure future generations of skilled apprentices for high demand
4 occupations in our country, and

5

6 WHEREAS, replicating the success of traditional registered apprenticeship programs to
7 non-traditional occupations will take significant resources and support from the United
8 States Department of Labor,

9

10 WHEREAS, there are very successful apprenticeship programs in the United States and
11 throughout the world,

12

13 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the NCSL support federal initiatives and funding to
14 expand state registered apprenticeship programs into non-traditional occupations and
15 careers, considering best practices and policies found in other countries.

1 **COMMITTEE: LABOR AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

2 **POLICY: THE FEDERAL ROLE IN CAREER TECHNICAL**
3 **EDUCATION (CTE)**

4 **TYPE: POLICY DIRECTIVE**

5 **SPONSORS: N/A**
6

7 WHEREAS, the federal government should provide additional funding and support the
8 authority of states for flexibility to allocate some funds through a competitive grant
9 administered by the state in pursuit and support of innovative, high quality and effective
10 programs.

11
12 WHEREAS, NCSL believes that CTE competitive grant programs should be used to
13 incentivize and modernize state and local programs in order to meet the evolving needs
14 of students. NCSL supports adequate funding for CTE competitive grant programs.

15
16 WHEREAS, These funding decisions can best be handled at the state level rather than
17 by individual schools and/or districts.

18
19 WHEREAS, States should continue to have the authority to determine the split between
20 secondary and postsecondary CTE programs.

21
22 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the NCSL supports the existing CTE funding
23 formula for the allocation of federal funds to the state being maintained.

1 **COMMITTEE: LABOR AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**
2 **POLICY: WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT**
3 **REAUTHORIZATION AND FUNDING (WIOA)**
4 **TYPE: POLICY DIRECTIVE**
5 **SPONSORS: N/A**
6

7 WHEREAS, in order to train and maintain a highly skilled workforce NCSL believes that
8 states should be given flexibility to meet the broad goals set out in the Workforce
9 Innovation and opportunity Act (WIOA) and that state discretion to establish and
10 administer workforce development services should be maintained.

11
12 WHEREAS, reauthorization of WIOA should not include inflexible federal mandates and
13 restrictions on how funds can be used by states and the localities which deliver these
14 services. In addition, workforce development reporting should be streamlined to
15 promote program and administrative efficiencies.

16
17 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that NCSL believes that the components of an
18 integrated WIOA system should be appropriately funded in appropriation and
19 reauthorization.

20
21 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that NCSL believes that administrative and
22 technological funding for One-Stops should be central to WIOA appropriation and
23 reauthorization.

1 **COMMITTEE: LABOR AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

2 **POLICY: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

3 **TYPE: POLICY DIRECTIVE**

4 **SPONSORS: N/A**

5
6 WHEREAS, The National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) strongly urges the
7 federal government to better coordinate its economic development activities with the
8 states.

9
10 WHEREAS, NCSL urges the U.S. Department of Commerce, the U.S. Department of
11 Agriculture, the U.S. Department of Labor and the Small Business Administration to
12 each establish a designated liaison to coordinate economic development activities
13 among the four agencies and with the states.

14
15 WHEREAS, NCSL encourages the federal government to support arts and culture
16 through investments in State and Local programs that will promote economic
17 development, job creation and community revitalization.

18
19 WHEREAS, NCSL encourages collaboration and coordination among the Federal
20 Government's disparate arts, culture and economic development agencies as they
21 consider State and local programs ensure that the policy and program outcomes meet
22 the needs and goals identified by state policymakers.

23
24 ~~WHEREAS, In order to train and maintain a highly skilled workforce NCSL believes that~~
25 ~~states should be given flexibility to meet the broad goals set out in the Workforce~~
26 ~~Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and that state discretion to establish and~~
27 ~~administer workforce development services should be maintained.~~

28
29 ~~WHEREAS, Reauthorization of WIOA should not include inflexible federal mandates~~
30 ~~and restrictions on how funds can be used by states and the localities which deliver~~
31 ~~these services. In addition, workforce development reporting should be streamlined to~~
32 ~~promote program and administrative efficiencies.~~

33
34 ~~WHEREAS, NCSL believes that the components of an integrated WIOA system should~~
35 ~~be appropriately funded in appropriation and reauthorization.~~

36
37 ~~THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that NCSL believes that administrative and~~
38 ~~technological funding for One-Stops should be central to WIOA appropriation and~~
39 ~~reauthorization.~~

40
41 WHEREAS, NCSL encourages the Congress and the Administration to support
42 flexibility and state discretion in housing programs and avoid unfunded mandates.

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WHEREAS, NCSL encourages efforts to promote a greater state role in administering federal housing programs, subject to sufficient funding and flexibility.

WHEREAS, NCSL is encouraged and supportive of public private partnership programs and initiatives that increase the availability of financing for homeownership opportunities. NCSL supports first time home buyer tax credits to promote homeownership prospects, preserving the Mortgage Interest Deduction, and low-income housing tax credits that produce new, affordable housing.

WHEREAS, NCSL strongly urges the federal government to consult state legislators and other state officials as voucher program reforms are designed to ensure that they will meet state needs, provide the flexibility we desire, avoid cost shifts to states, and continue with ample federal funding for program and administrative costs.

WHEREAS, NCSL urges the Congress to sustain funding levels sufficient to maintain existing vouchers, including the Department of Housing and Urban Development-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) programs and already committed project based Section 8 subsidies.

~~WHEREAS, The federal government should provide additional funding and support the authority of states for flexibility to allocate some funds through a competitive grant administered by the state in pursuit and support of innovative, high quality and effective programs.~~

~~WHEREAS, NCSL believes that CTE competitive grant programs should be used to incentivize and modernize state and local programs in order to meet the evolving needs of students. NCSL supports adequate funding for CTE competitive grant programs.~~

~~WHEREAS, These funding decisions can best be handled at the state level rather than by individual schools and/or districts.~~

~~WHEREAS, States should continue to have the authority to determine the split between secondary and postsecondary CTE programs.~~

~~THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the NCSL supports existing CTE funding formula for the allocation of federal funds to the state should be maintain~~