



FEBRUARY 1, 2017

Senators introduce JOBS Act

On January 25th, Senators [Rob Portman \(R-OH\)](#) and [Tim Kaine \(D-VA\)](#), co-chairs of the Senate Career and Technical Education (CTE) Caucus, introduced the *Jumpstart Our Businesses By Supporting Students (JOBS) Act*, legislation that would amend the *Higher Education Act* by expanding Pell Grant eligibility to students enrolled in short-term job training programs. The bill would help students access training for the 5.5 million vacant jobs that are unfilled in part due to a shortage of qualified workers. Read NSC's blog post [here](#).



Register for our upcoming webinars!

Join us Tuesday, February 14 at 2:00 p.m. ET for Workforce Data Quality Campaign's webinar, *Building on the Blueprint: Improving State Workforce Data*. During this webinar, panelists will review progress on state workforce data across the country and feature policy and advocacy lessons from Colorado and Arizona. [Register here!](#)



On March 2 at 2:30 p.m. ET, NSC will host [Skills Equity Policies in the States](#), a webinar where state policy experts and NSC staff will discuss state policies that expand equitable access to middle-skill training, credentials, and careers, particularly for those who have faced barriers to economic opportunity. NSC recently released a 50-state scan summary on skills equity policies. [Click here](#) to download.

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NSC IN THE NEWS

[Working Smarter to Combat the Labor Shortage](#) | *Twin Cities Business*, 1.3.17

[Is 'Brain Waste' Costing New Jersey Billions Every Year?](#) | *NJ Spotlight*, 1.6.17

[Trump could be looking at the job market all wrong](#) | *Business Insider*, 1.9.17

[Closing the skills gap](#) | *El Paso Times*, 1.21.17

[Career Training for Job Growth](#) | *Valley Center Happenings*, 1.23.17

[Legislation to expand Pell Grant eligibility](#) | *CBS19*, 1.25.17

[Kaine, Portman introduce bipartisan jobs act](#) | *Augusta Free Press*, 1.25.17

[New online tool designed to help Ohio](#)

WIOA Updates

State Plans at Your Fingertips

The U.S. Departments of Labor and Education have provided an online portal to the WIOA plans from each of the fifty states, the District of Columbia, and the territories. The site provides access to each state plan, and links to a search tool that enables you to search the content of the plans. Find the plans and read more in our [blog](#).



DOL updates on reporting - For the first time, the U.S. Department of Labor plans to collect detailed information about WIOA training provider programs, including the specific credentials that participants can receive. This information will help DOL assess how well the program is working to help participants earn credentials and obtain good jobs. More details [here](#).

Department of Labor issues new guidance on serving immigrants

New policy guidance issued by the U.S. Department of Labor will be of interest to immigrant advocates and adult educators. The guidance, known as a Training and Employment Notice (TEN), focuses on best practices in serving English language learners, immigrants and refugees in the public workforce system. It spotlights innovative examples of such services from around the U.S. Learn more in NSC's [Skills Blog post](#).



California is building partnerships that unlock social mobility

California's community colleges and workforce system are joining together to organize local Partnerships that Unlock Social Mobility, a capacity-building initiative between local workforce development boards and community colleges. Partnerships will focus on enhancing the capacity to provide career counseling, job placement, and supportive services. [Click here](#) to read more.



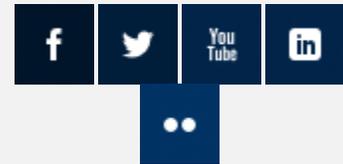
[workers](#) | Toledo Legal News, 1.26.17

[Wanted: Factory Workers, Degree Required](#) | New York Times, 1.30.17

PARTNER RESOURCES

The Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas and the Center for Public Policy Priorities released a new report, [Regional Talent Pipelines: Collaborating with Industry to Build Opportunities in Texas](#). It includes recommendations for how the state of Texas can support regional skills strategies, including sector partnerships.

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Workforce Data Explained: Using Data to Narrow California Skills Gaps

Workforce Data Quality
Campaign [interviewed](#) Jillian
Leufgen of the California
Community Colleges



Chancellor's Office on how the state uses data to narrow skills gaps. Since the video was produced, there has been a flurry of activity in California. The state legislature passed [SB 66](#) (2016) to allow sharing of [data on licenses](#) to track impact on employment and wages. California Community Colleges also [aligned performance data](#) with WIOA.

NSC featured in Training Futures video

CEO Andy Van Kleunen and
administrative assistant
Kamina Ellington were
featured in [Training Future's](#)
recent video. During the
interview, Andy and Kamina
share NSC's experience working with this Northern Virginia
Family Service workforce development initiative that focuses
on training people for professional office careers. [Watch the
video here.](#)



Leadership Spotlight: Sarah Labadie

Sarah Labadie is a Senior
Policy Associate at [Women
Employed](#). In our [latest
spotlight](#), Sarah shares
her take on job-driven financial
aid as a pathway to
success and what she's
learned from her work in the field.



On the road with NSC

- Federal Policy Director Kermit Kaleba participated in a webinar for the [Network of Jewish Human Services Agencies](#) providing an outlook on federal workforce and education policies in the 115th Congress and the incoming Trump Administration. Kermit also participated in a panel discussion on adult education under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act for the [Literacy Council of Northern Virginia](#) in McLean, VA.

- State Policy Director Bryan Wilson spoke about state stackable credential policies before approximately 120 community and technical college leaders from 15 states at [Jobs for the Future's Postsecondary State Policy Meeting](#) in Seattle, WA.
 - Director of Upskilling Policy Amanda Bergson-Shilcock presented an overview of NSC's new Integrated Education and Training [policy scan and toolkit](#) to members of the National Coalition for Literacy.
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