



# NATIONAL SKILLS COALITION

Every worker. Every industry. A strong economy.

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## Will you help us hold the president to his promises?

Last night, President Trump talked about workforce development in his State of the Union Address, promoting career and technical education, job training, and vocational schools.

Usually, I'd be excited to hear a president talk about workforce development in the SOTU. I hope we can work with him and Congress to make this a reality. Unfortunately, in the past, it's been hard to square the president's lofty words with his deeds:

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- There's no sign of the [million new apprentices he promised](#) last June.
- In last year's proposed budget, he called for [deep cuts to workforce](#), apprenticeship, and CTE programs.
- He talked a lot about rebuilding crumbling infrastructure – but didn't connect those calls with the [critical need to build a pipeline of skilled, trained people](#) who can actually do the work.

Let's be clear – the reason workforce development is even on the President's radar is because of our coalition's advocacy. And believe it or not, there's a whole range of bipartisan workforce development [legislation](#) that's on the move in Congress: from [ending the bias against working people in federal financial aid](#) by extending Pell grants to career-oriented people who want to enroll in short-term training programs, to policies that will finally take apprenticeship to scale, to ensuring any DREAM Act includes a middle-skill pathway.

The president has just put our most important issues on blast - but we need your help to hold the president to his promises. Hundreds of you will be on Capitol Hill next week during our Skills Summit, talking with your representatives about these very issues. **If you can't be with us, [will you help lift our voices](#) with a donation to National Skills Coalition today?**

PS – it's not too late to [register for the Skills Summit](#) if you want to capitalize on this rare moment when everyone in Washington will be talking about workforce.

Thanks for all that you do,

Andy Van Kleunen  
CEO, National Skills Coalition

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