

knowledge alliance

April 4, 2022

The Honorable Bobby Scott
Chair, House Education and Labor Committee
2328 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Scott,

On behalf of Knowledge Alliance (KA), I am writing to thank you for your overall support for the use of evidence-based practices throughout the *Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act of 2022 (WIOA)*. Knowledge Alliance, a non-profit, non-partisan organization, is comprised of leading education organizations committed since 1971 to the greater use of high-quality and relevant data, research, evaluation and innovation in education policy and practice at all levels. Collectively, we promote the use of rigorous research to figure out “what works,” and why, to improve student outcomes and then share those findings with policymakers, practitioners and the general public.

Knowledge Alliance is deeply appreciative of your leadership in incorporating many of our suggested changes to this bill. Specifically, we are thankful for:

- The tiered definition of “evidence-based”
- The inclusion of evidence-based practices in relation to:
 - State workforce development boards
 - Local workforce development boards
 - Youth Workforce Investment Activities
 - Statewide adult and dislocated worker activities
 - Job Corps
 - Native American programs
 - Community College and Industry Partnership Grants
 - Reentry Employment Opportunities
- The creation of a new Workforce Development Innovation Fund

We look forward to working with you and the rest of the Education and Labor Committee as this bill moves forward in the legislative process. We are particularly interested in further ensuring the widespread use of evidence-based practices within WIOA in places where we think it is important to focus on evidence, especially if it is available. Additionally, we hope the final bill includes our original recommendation for an allowable Secretary set aside towards research and evaluation as well as our proposed language surrounding the definition of a well-designed and well-implemented evaluation study in the Innovation Fund. Thank you again for incorporating many of our proposed changes and your consideration of future improvements.

Best,



Rachel Dinkes