

April 8, 2024

The Honorable Mike Johnson Speaker U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries Democratic Leader U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Speaker Johnson and Leader Jeffries,

On behalf of Autos Drive America's members, I write to express our support for H.R. 6655, A Stronger Workforce for America Act. Autos Drive America represents thirteen international automakers and battery manufacturers operating in the United States: BMW, Honda, Hyundai, Kia, Mazda, Mercedes-Benz, Mitsubishi, Nissan, Panasonic, Subaru, Toyota, Volkswagen, and Volvo. Our members produce nearly half of all American-made vehicles annually, account for over half of new vehicle sales, and support 2.3 million American jobs.

Autos Drive America members offer approximately 140 workforce development programs in the U.S. and 95 percent of automotive assembly operations offer onsite learning facilities. These critical workforce education programs encourage students to pursue career and technical education while giving current employees opportunities to reskill and upskill their manufacturing competencies.

This bipartisan bill to reauthorize the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act for the first time in nearly a decade will strengthen the education-to-career-pipeline by aligning education opportunities with workforce needs and providing high-quality job opportunities to job seekers and employees alike.

Some critical updates to WIOA included in H.R. 6655 would support employer-led and on-thejob workforce upskilling programs and opportunities; include more dollars for tangible worker programs; ensure programs are aligned with in-demand jobs for better workforce opportunities; allow for better evaluation of program success; and improve efficiency and effectiveness of workforce programs.

Autos Drive America appreciates these bipartisan, commonsense solutions to improving the pathway to career-track jobs and urges the House to vote in favor of this important legislation.

Sincerely,

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Jennifer M. Safavian President and CEO Autos Drive America

BMW . Honda . Hyundai . Kia . Mazda . Mercedes-Benz . Mitsubishi . Nissan . Subaru . Toyota . Volkswagen . Volvo

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