December 3, 2024

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Minority Leader
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Johnson, Minority Leader Jeffries, Majority Leader Schumer, and Minority Leader McConnell,

Results for America (RFA) applauds the bipartisan efforts of the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) and the U.S. House Committee on Education and the Workforce on the bipartisan A Stronger Workforce for America Act. This legislation, which would reauthorize the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), would harness the power of evidence and data to help improve outcomes for America's workers. We urge Congress to pass this bill expeditiously. We particularly appreciate the inclusion of a number of our recommended evidence-based policy and data provisions, including provisions that would:

- **Define evidence of effectiveness** and drive federal workforce dollars toward interventions proven to advance economic mobility and labor market outcomes;
- **Codify the Workforce Data Quality Initiative grant program,** which helps integrate education and workforce longitudinal data systems, and greatly improves both the timeliness and relevance of labor market data;
- **Enable States to leverage the National Directory of New Hires,** strengthening data linkages between program participants, providers, and employers;
- **Raise the cap on pay-for-performance contracting** and allow the use of the Governor's Reserve for financial incentives for pay-for-performance, simplifying the process to implement partnerships with programs that have a proven track record of delivering positive impact;
- **Codify the Reentry Employment Opportunities Program**, an evidence-based model proven to help justice-involved individuals released from prisons transition back to meaningful employment and reduce recidivism; and
- **Enhance the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act** by including digital literacy skills as a core component of adult education and emphasizing the use of "integrated education and training" to better integrate basic skill-building and career preparation for adult learners.

We also applaud the bill's **State Flexibility Pilot Authority provision** that would allow states and local areas to reserve 25% of funding to develop and pilot innovative, evidence-based strategies that achieve better outcomes for job seekers, workers, employers, and taxpayers.

Thank you again for the Committees' work to advance a strong, bipartisan bill that strengthens data and evidence to improve workforce outcomes in America. Your staff should feel free to contact Kenneth Megan, RFA's Director of Federal Policy, at kenneth@results4america.org with any questions.

Sincerely,

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