



Workforce Development Investment Act

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Labor shortages continue to pose a very real risk to the long-term health of the lumber and building material dealer industry and its supply chain. The impacts of this shortage are affecting stakeholders ranging from small, family-owned businesses to large corporations. The lack of labor throughout the industry could have dire implications for the entire supply chain and have a negative impact on meeting the nation's demand for building material products.

To this end, NLBMDA supports the Workforce Development Investment Act of 2022 (H.R. 6778) which would create two employer credits that will help improve workforce development programs to meet local needs and provide businesses with direct assistance to train workers. These credits are highlighted below.

- Educational partnership credit: Provides up to \$5,000 in annual tax credits to employers for each partnership with community colleges, career and technical education schools, or other institutions of higher education to improve workforce development. The specific parameters of the partnership will be set by the Department of Labor. The partnerships must help in developing the educational curriculum, assist with instruction in the classroom, and provide internships, apprenticeships, or other hands-on educational opportunities for students.
- Direct training credit: Creates a credit of up to \$5,000 per worker for qualifying employee training costs. Employers are able to utilize the credit for training through the partnerships established by the bill or for apprenticeship programs certified by the Department of Labor.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

Pass H.R. 6778 – Workforce Development Investment Act

Address ongoing labor shortages and workforce development challenges in the LBM industry and its supply chain by passing the Workforce Development Investment Act.

REQUEST

NLBMDA urges lawmakers to cosponsor and pass the Workforce Development Investment Act in both chambers of Congress. The bill is sponsored by Rep. Ann Kuster (D-NH).