

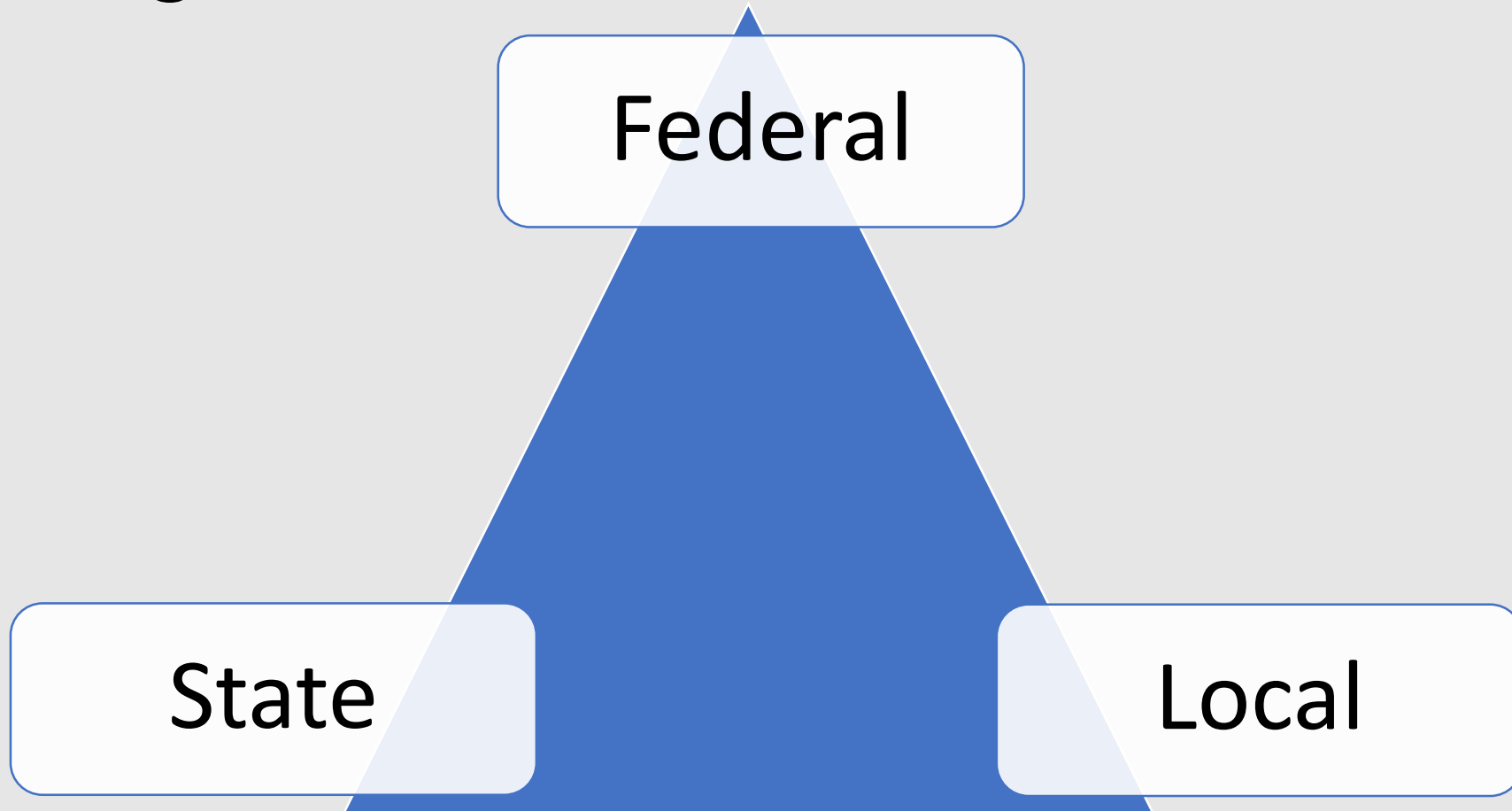


Keep a Sharp Lookout: Workforce Development Advocacy

Nicole Vasilaros
Senior Vice President, Government and Legal Affairs NMMA



Workforce needs can be addressed at all levels of government



How can the federal government address the industry's shortfall of qualified workers?

**THERE ARE MORE THAN
31,000 OPEN JOBS IN THE
U.S. MARINE INDUSTRY**

 21% Unfilled retail positions

 59% Unfilled jobs in boating service

 88% of available service jobs are for marine technicians

1. Reform

- How students can use their education dollars

2. Secure

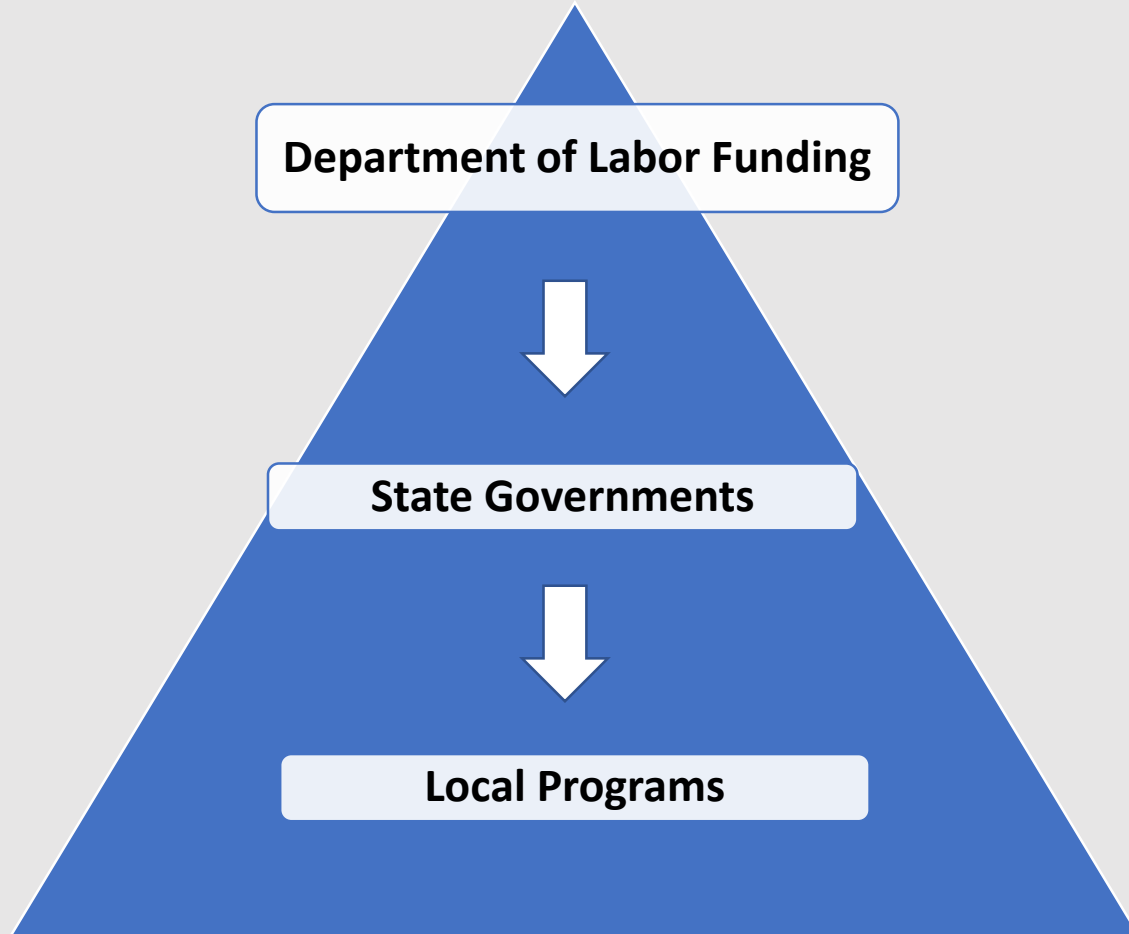
- Funding for education and development programs

3. Expand

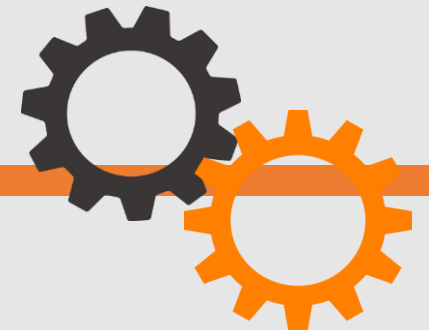
- Pell grant eligibility and training opportunities



How states receive most workforce funding



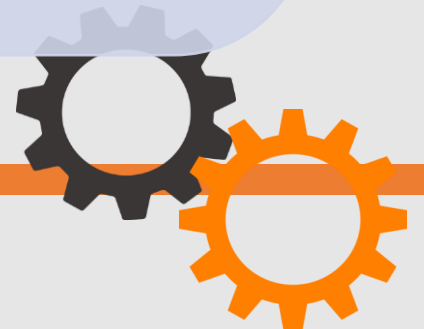
In 2019, the Department of Labor announced \$73 million to all 50 states in State Apprenticeship Expansion grants



Congress can address the worker shortage through modernizing higher education

Higher Education Act (HEA)

- Since 1965, HEA is the federal law that determines how the Department of Education administers financial aid (e.g., grants and loans) to students, including Pell grants.
- Expired in 2013
 - But... Congress has extended HEA multiple times since 2013
- Congressional action in 2019?
 - Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions committee has held several hearings in 2019 and is set to introduce an updated version
 - Strong bipartisan support to expand the eligibility of Pell grants to help our business fill their workforce needs



Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)

- **What does it do?**
 - WIOA authorizes federal funding for workforce development programs such as work-based learning, on-the-job training and apprenticeships
- **When does WIOA expire?**
 - 2020
- **Is Congress going to reauthorize the program?**
 - Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions committee has held several hearings in 2019 and is set to introduce an updated version
 - Congress can use WIOA to provide more funding and modernize the eligibility for workforce development initiatives



Reform how students can use their education savings

The American Workforce Empowerment Act

Rationale: The American Workforce Empowerment Act will alleviate the growing shortage of skilled workers to fill openings in the technical and skilled trades.

Background: Trade unions, manufacturers, small businesses and industry groups are concerned about the increasing shortage of skilled trade workers. Unfortunately, those wishing to pursue post-secondary education to obtain technical training, trade skills or an industry-recognized credential often cannot use pre-tax dollars from their 529 savings plan to pay for education expenses or to purchase necessary tools or equipment for their vocation.

Current 529 savings plans only allow students to pay for:

- post-secondary two and four year college degrees;
- certain programs leading to a “post-secondary credential” as defined in Section 3 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA); and,
- up to \$10,000/year in elementary and high school tuition

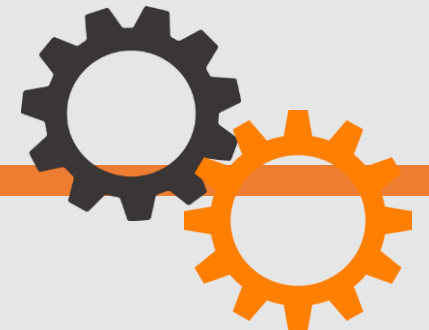
Under current statute, many registered apprenticeship programs formed under the National Apprenticeship Act of 1937 (NAA) are not Section 529 eligible. Also, programs defined as leading to a “recognized post-secondary credential” as defined in WIOA are not Section 529 eligible if the offering institution isn’t an “eligible institution.”

The issue

- Apprenticeship programs, technical training and industry-recognized credentialing are not eligible for 529 education savings

The American Workforce Empowerment Act

- Led by Reps. Van Drew (D-NJ-2) and Hagedorn (R-MN-1)
- Expands the 529 savings plan definition of a “recognized post-secondary credential” to include:
 - Apprenticeship programs;
 - Technical or trade training; and
 - Industry-recognized credentialing.



White House Pledge to America's Workers



Our Pledge to America's Workers

The American workforce is our country's greatest national asset.

The National Marine Manufacturers Association pledges to invest in the advancement of our current and future workforce by providing individuals with opportunities to develop skills that will help them succeed, not just in their current role, but throughout their careers.

We pledge to invest in both students and workers by providing opportunities for education and training that will help more Americans thrive in the modern workplace. Specifically, over the next 5 years, we pledge to create enhanced career opportunities for 30,000 individuals, including through increased apprenticeships and work-based learning programs, continuing education, on-the-job training, and re-skilling.

COMPANY REPRESENTATIVE
Thomas J. Dammrich
President, National Marine Manufacturers Association

Over the next
5 years for
30,000
workers

NMMA will
work with
Congress and
the
administration

Commit to
providing new
education and
training
opportunities



116th Congressional Outlook



Support passage of the American Workforce Empowerment Act

- Allow students to use their own education savings to pursue vocational training or apprenticeships



Reauthorize HEA and WIOA

- Expand Pell grant eligibility to short-term post-secondary certificates and demand-driven non-credit programs
- Enhance opportunities and secure funding for businesses to provide on-the-job training, apprenticeships, and other workforce development initiatives



Support & secure funding for apprenticeship and on-the-job training programs

- House expected to introduce legislation this fall focused on expanding apprenticeships and work-based learning opportunities



Manufacturing Day

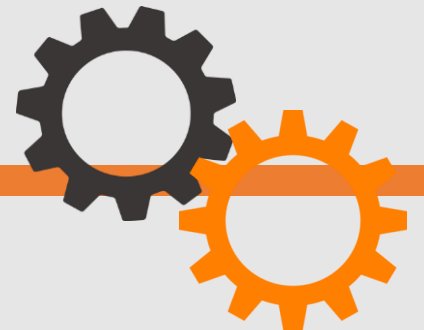


October 4, 2019



The Case for Immigration Reform

- Strengthen border security
- Reform legal immigration that:
 - Address the visa backlog
 - Increases allowable number of advanced degree visas
 - Reforms and expands H2B visas (no agriculture, temporary workers)
- Address undocumented workers and children and provides a path forward

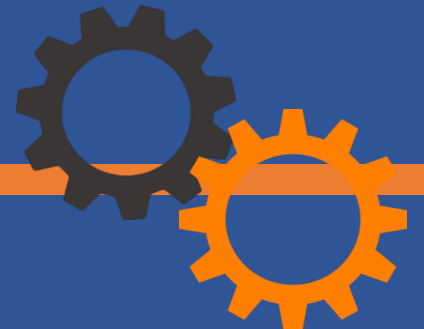


What you can do to help....



Questions?

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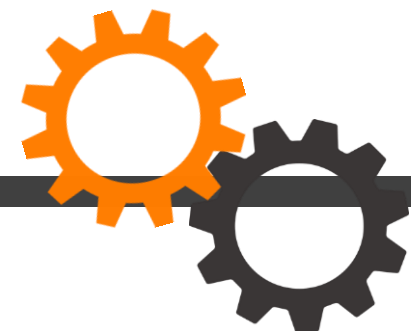


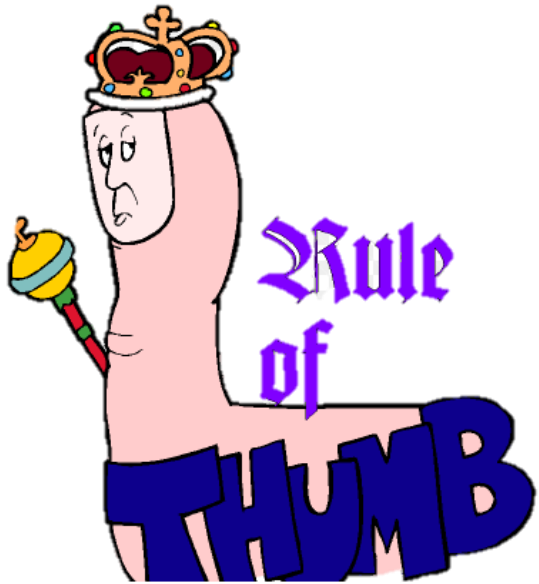


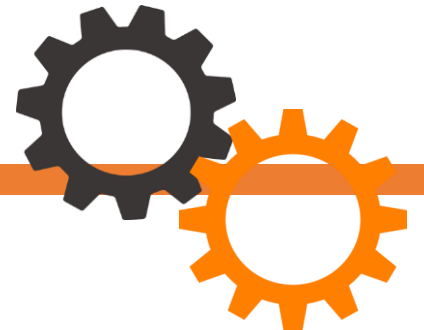
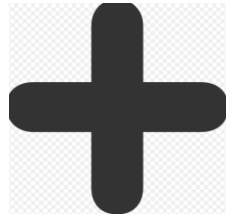
Keep a sharp lookout: This hairy topic is hairier

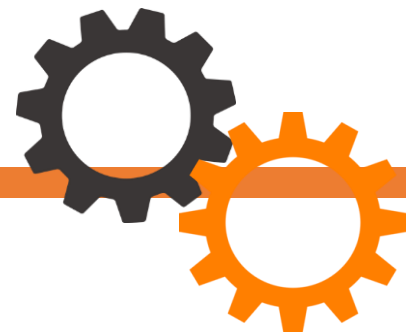
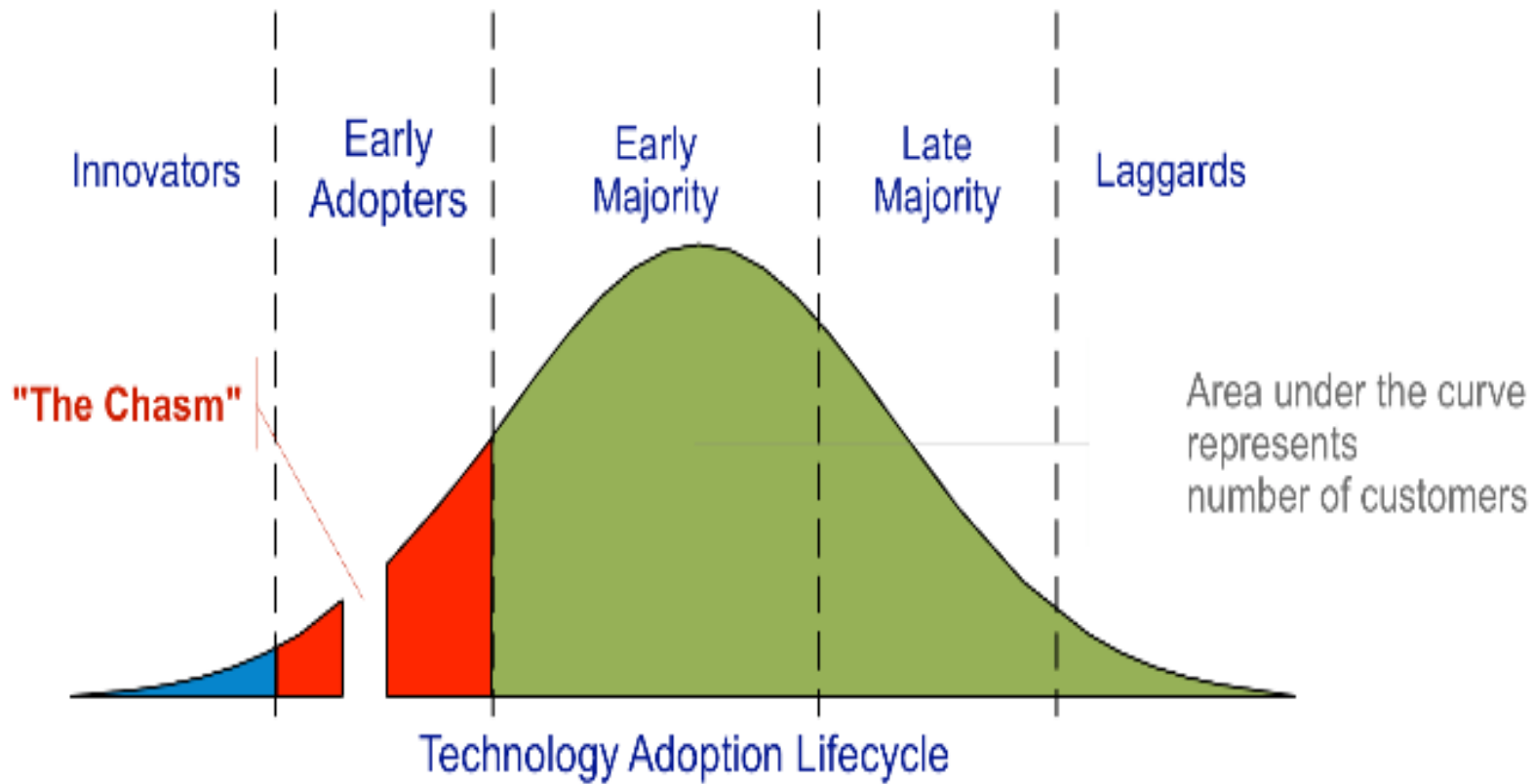
Peter Schrappen
VP, NW Marine Trade

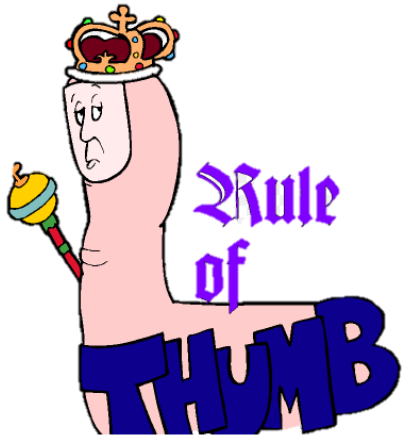




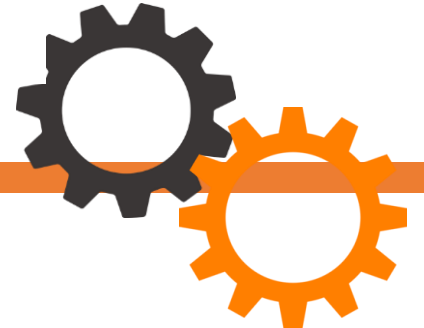


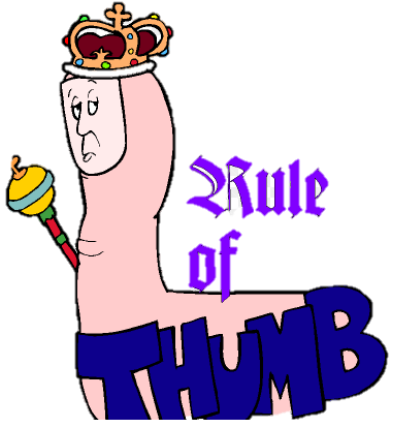




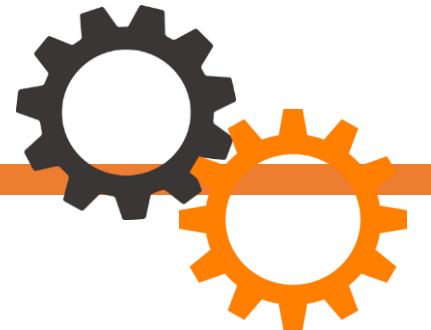


“If you help build it, you become part of it.”

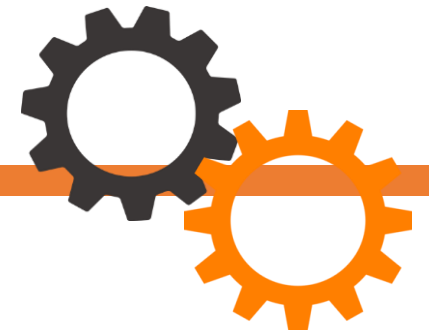


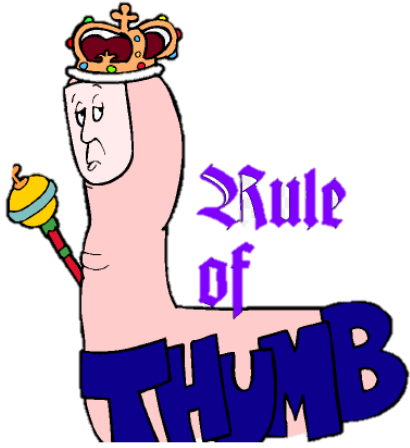


“Start where they are. Not where you are”



Are you helping them get self-actualized?





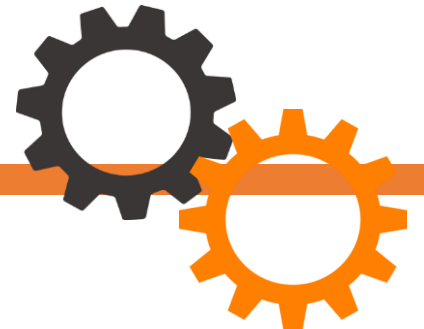
“Relationships trump information.”



Mike Sells shared a link.

3 hours ago 

As a legislator, we get inundated with "economic studies" based on one model or another. Their veracity depends upon their assumptions going in. Here's another example that Rep. Ross Hunter, Chair of House appropriations provides. As he says, "You can say almost anything you want about economics and get a study to "prove" it. This article from the Policy Center is unlikely to say anything interesting



The right mix:

Education

- Students & Parents
- Teachers & Counselors
- Superintendents
- 4-Year and Community College Presidents

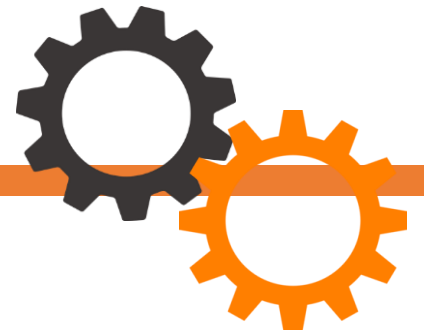
Business & Industry Leaders

Government/State Agency Staff

Labor Leaders

Community Leaders and Nonprofits

Regional Leaders



The Solution: Connected pathways require a connected system

Employment

Government



Industry



Employers



Labor

Education

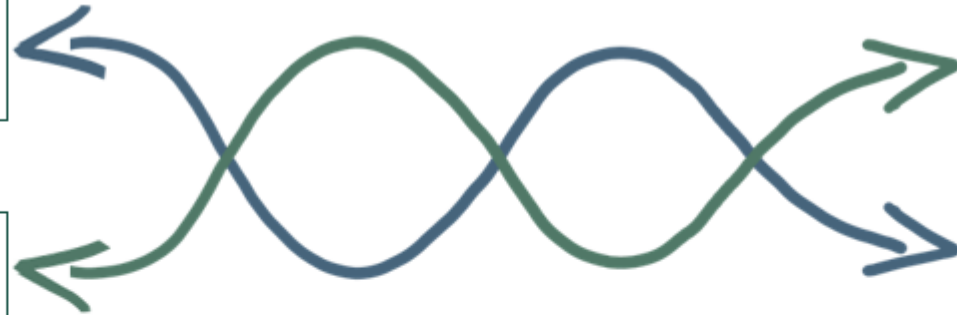
K12 & Postsecondary Systems



Educators



(incl. K12, CTC, 4-Year)



Ideas to spur conversation:

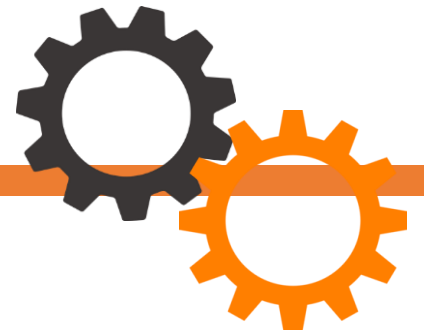
Run a bill or find spots to testify

- Modernizing the Fishing Fleet bill
- Look for “industrial lands”

Check out state chamber of commerce

Make a campaign contribution

Look for leg districts that have low high school graduation rates

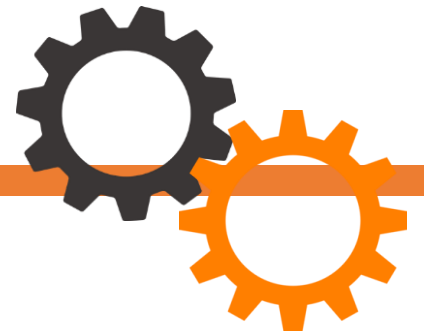


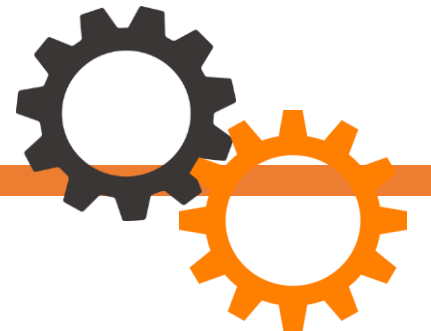
Thank you!

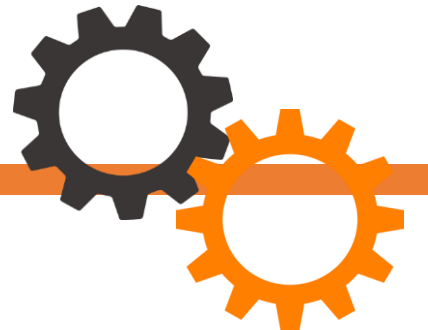
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Time for coffee!



A Lippert Components Company 

