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Honorable Lisa Blunt Rochester

*United States Senate
513 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510*

August 6, 2026

Dear Senator Blunt Rochester,

On behalf of NAF, I am writing to express our strong support for **S. 5157, the Reimagining Education and Skills through Unified Longitudinal Talent Systems (RESULTS) Act**.

For more than four decades, NAF has worked to expand access to opportunity by helping students develop transferable skills, discover their interests and connect their learning to meaningful careers. Through our career academies and work-based learning experiences, NAF serves over 152,000 students annually in communities across 34 states and territories.

NAF engages with long-term, independent research partners to examine the outcome of our students including high school completion, college enrollment, degree attainment, and workforce success. These efforts help NAF validate our impact, identify best practices and contribute to the growing evidence base on career-connected learning. Since 2021, alongside American Institutes for Research (AIR), and university research partners, NAF has used data from the National Student Clearinghouse (NSC) and a statewide database connecting K-12 records with college enrolment and employment data to explore postsecondary and workforce outcomes for our alumni. This critical research has provided valuable insights into the impact of career academies and work-based learning experiences on students' educational and career journeys.

While NAF was able to conduct this longitudinal research in states with robust data infrastructure, access to connected education and workforce data remains inconsistent across the country. As a result, many states lack the capacity to fully understand outcomes beyond high school graduation or assess the long-term effectiveness of career pathway programs. The modernization of statewide longitudinal data systems proposed in the RESULTS Act will address these challenges by supporting a more comprehensive, connected and actionable data system. Such improvements will help educators, researchers, policymakers and employers better evaluate the impact of career pathways programs and work-based learning experiences on our student success and workforce outcomes.

As our economy continues to evolve, pathways that integrate academic learning with real-world experiences are crucial to better aligning workforce needs and economic growth. To effectively expand and improve these opportunities, states need access to high-quality data that can answer critical questions about program effectiveness, student outcomes, and labor market demand. This legislation represents an important step toward ensuring that strong evidence is available to inform policy decisions, support continuous improvement, and identify what helps students' success in both education and careers.



We thank you for your leadership in sponsoring this legislation and stand ready to support its passage and implementation efforts in any way we can. NAF looks forward to continuing to partner with policymakers and education leaders to strengthen research capabilities on career pathways and work-based learning experiences.

Thank you again for your leadership and commitment to America's students and future workforce.

Sincerely,

Lisa Dughi

CEO | NAF