



**CONSORTIUM FOR CITIZENS
WITH DISABILITIES**

Statement Regarding Passage of the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act

Washington, DC, July 25, 2018 --The Education Task Force of the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD) is pleased that Congress has taken final action on HR 2353 Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act and issued the following statement:

“High school students with disabilities who participate in career and technical education (CTE) programs are *nine times more likely* to become employed. Therefore, we applaud Congress’ agreement to update the CTE law in ways that intend to improve the outcomes of individuals with disabilities. Consistent with our priorities for updating the law are new provisions in the Act such as: including individuals with disabilities among the stakeholders that must be consulted in the development of the state plan; creating a new set aside for the recruitment of individuals with disabilities to CTE programs that lead to high-wage in-demand careers; including provisions around public reporting on student subgroups and special population performance by program of study; and, expanding access and requirements for teacher professional development in Universal Design for Learning and other research-based teaching methods. We know students with disabilities have the capacity to thrive in school and work when provided adequate education and training. We are thrilled the new law assures states will give thought to improving and supporting enhanced education and training that results in more highly skilled individuals entering the workforce.”

The CCD Education Task Force urges every state to update its plan consistent with the new law so that every individual eligible for CTE can have the education and training they need to participate in today’s workforce.

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