

**Questions for the Record from
REPRESENTATIVE RAUL M. GRIJALVA**

**Committee on Education and the Workforce
Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Development Hearing:
“Examining America’s Workforce Challenges: Looking for Ways to Improve
Skills Development”
Thursday, May 11, 2023
10:15 a.m.**

**Representative Raul M. Grijalva (D-AZ)
Question for Dr. Harry J. Holzer**

1. Dr. Holzer, you wrote in your testimony that the US only spends point one percent of its GDP on employment and training programs while industrialized countries spend half a percent of their GDP. In Arizona, we are fortunate to be growing strong aerospace and technology industries. A critical piece of maintaining this growth is ensuring that high-skill industries like these in Arizona and others across the country are adequately staffed with highly trained workers.
 - a) Can we remain competitive in the global economy while we invest so little in our workforce compared to our industrialized competitors?

My response to Congressman Grijalva:

It will be more challenging to maintain our competitiveness in a global economy if we continue to spend so little on workforce development.

Competitive industries like IT and advanced manufacturing require a range of skilled workers to be successful. Some of these workers will need to earn certificates that are not currently eligible for Title IV funding (like Pell grants). The risk is particularly serious in the work funded by the new CHIPS bill, which will require a range of well-trained technicians to be implemented.

Raising investments in workforce development are thus key to be competitive in these industries.