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March 31, 2025

Mr. Robert Sainz
Chair, National Youth Employment Coalition Board of Directors
1155 15th Street, NW, Suite 725
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Mr. Sainz,

Thank you again for testifying at the March 5, 2025, Committee on Education and Workforce, Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Development hearing titled "Strengthening WIOA: Improving Outcomes for America's Workforce." Enclosed are additional questions submitted by Committee members following the hearing. Please provide a written response no later than April 21, 2025, for inclusion in the hearing record. Responses should be sent to Isaiah Knox (isaiah.knox@mail.house.gov) of the Committee staff; he can also be contacted at (202) 731-7894.

We appreciate your contribution to the work of the Committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "B. Owens", with a long, sweeping underline.

Burgess Owens
Chairman
Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Development

Representative Ilhan Omar (D-MN-05)

1. With [WIOA] reauthorization still in limbo, localities, workers, and employers across the country are stuck navigating uncertainty instead of expanding opportunity. However, this moment does give us a chance to revisit and refine bipartisan legislation. I have heard directly from our local workforce development boards, unions, and other stakeholders that funding levels and funding flexibility remain a concern. To address urgent workforce issues, Congress must ensure that we give our communities sufficient resources – that can not only meet emerging challenges and opportunities in our rapidly evolving economy, but that are also fit-for-purpose and responsive to local needs and job markets.
 - a. **Q:** One way in which Congress can provide this type of comprehensive, dynamic support is by providing dedicated funding sources for wraparound services. Mr. Sainz, could you discuss the important role of supportive services, particularly for opportunity youth and other underserved populations?
 - b. **Q:** How do such supplementary services to job training, such as transportation and career counseling, impact worker participation and training completion rates?