EBINDJV

AUTOMOTIVE Youth Educational Systems YES

July 2, 2008

Hon. Patrick J. Tiberi
U.S. House of Representatives
Ohio District 12

Dear Congressman Tiberi:

Thank you for joining the Congressional Career and Technical Education Caucus. Your commitment to the Caucus clearly demonstrates your understanding of the importance of career and technical education in preparing a well-educated and skilled workforce.

There are many studies that clearly demonstrate the value of CTE programs. Within your district, you have examples of an exceptional CTE program with proven success. The automotive programs at Career & Technology Education Centers of Licking County and Delaware Area Career Center are affiliated with Automotive Youth Educational Systems (AYES), a national school-to-career initiative formed by the automotive industry to address the industry's need for qualified service technicians. AYES has a national model and process that includes industry certification of the program curriculum and training standards, industry recognized exit testing, incorporated employability skills, and a experiential process at the worksite under the guidance and tutelage of a trained mentor. Over 13,000 students have begun a successful and rewarding career in the automotive industry through the AYES program, and AYES continues to grow every year. The Senate Report on the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act of 2006 states, "The U.S. Department of Education has cited AYES for helping raising the rigor of career and technical education... and the U.S. Department of Labor has acknowledged the program's contribution to workforce development and its successful record in creating local partnerships that provide critical skills to students."

I encourage you to contact your AYES school to learn more. You may also wish to visit the AYES website at www.ayes.org, or you can contact AYES National Headquarters at (888) 339-2937.

Again, thank you for your commitment to ensuring the future of technical education in the U.S.

Sincerely,

Larry Cummings
President & CEO

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