



Construction Industry Round Table

Regulatory News - UPDATE

A force for positive change in the design / construction industry

06/12/2018 – Efforts Press Forward on Talent/Workforce Training & Apprenticeship Issues

The Opportunity America Jobs & Careers Coalition (which CIRT is an active member) has submitted a comprehensive and detailed letter responding to the DOL task force's final report on expanding apprenticeship/training programs. [See at: <https://www.dol.gov/apprenticeship/docs/task-force-apprenticeship-expansion-report.pdf>]. The report is a direct outgrowth of President Trump's appointment of a special task force to focus on this important matter and to identify and recommend changes / approaches to maximize job skills. [Mike Bellaman, President of ABC, and former CIRT Member, was a member of the Presidential Task Force]. The Coalition strongly supports *"the thrust of the report and its core recommendation: expanding earn-and-learn career education by spurring the growth of a till now little understood approach – industry-recognized earn-and-learn programs outside the traditional registered apprenticeship system that are overseen and accredited by third-party industry groups."*

At the same time, the Coalition presented a series of critiques that were offered to improve and/or advance the overall goals identified in the DOL Report, including: (a) how to better structure the new system or framework being envisioned, (b) strongly urging that alternative processes/systems used in parallel be treated on an equal footing in all regards, (c) maintaining transparency but not divulging specific personal or proprietary information in so doing, and (d) expanding the pilot program being proposed to include more industries and approaches. [For detailed analysis of these points; see, [Coalition Letter](#)].

CIRT will join in with the Coalition to continue working with the DOL to improve and/or modify the tenants of the report so as to enhance its reach and impact – specifically as it relates to the needs of the private sector firms in the design/construction community. [See, [CIRT 2018 Spring Conference session on this subject presented by Greg Sizemore](#)].