
March 11, 2021



Representative Adam Wool
State Capitol Room 501
Juneau, Alaska. 99801

Dear Representative Wool:

I am writing to inform you that I enthusiastically endorse the reauthorization of the Technical Vocational Education Program. (TVEP). I am the Director of the Alaska Technical Center (ATC) located in Kotzebue serving the northwest arctic region of the state. Leadership provided by the Northwest Arctic Leadership team (NWALT) representing the Northwest Arctic Borough School District through the Northwest Arctic Borough, NANA, and Maniilaq Association work together to maximize and reduce the duplication of efforts to address this region and the people who reside here. ATC and the people of northwest Alaska strongly support reauthorization of TVEP. TVEP is vital to the Alaska Technical Center as well as other statewide training centers that provide training for workforce opportunities. Thank you for sponsoring HB 100: it is extremely critical in maintaining education and training services that match regional and economic workforce needs.

ATC is an adult vocational/technical school for Alaskans providing training that leads to employment in the following areas: Health Care Occupations, Construction Trades, Process Technology and Culinary Arts. ATC also delivers various short courses that meet employer and business partner needs leading to employment or advancing in current employment. Employers like the Maniilaq Health Center, NANA, the Red Dog Mine and others in our region and statewide benefit from TVEP funding to ATC. ATC and other regional training centers provide high demand training that meets the unique workforce needs and has a positive impact through their training services towards sustainability and benefiting individuals and communities in Alaska. This is essential as we work together to build Alaska's economy.

Thank you for the opportunity to communicate my support in favor of TVEP reauthorization.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Cheryl Edenshaw', is written in black ink.

Cheryl Edenshaw, Director
Alaska Technical Center

CC: Senator Donny Olson (Sen.Donald.Olson@akleg.gov)
Representative Josiah Patkotak (Representative.Josiah.Patotak@akleg.gov)
Commissioner Tamika Ledbetter, DOLWFD (Commissioner.Labor@alaska.gov)