

*You are cordially invited by*

## **The Society for Maintenance and Reliability Professionals (SMRP)**

*To attend a Capitol Hill briefing on*

# **Addressing the Nation's Skills Gap Through Prioritizing Access to Industry Experts**

*Sponsored by*

## **Congresswoman Cheri Bustos [IL-17] and Congressman Brian Babin [TX-36]**

As interest in Career Technical Education (CTE) continues to grow, the need for experts qualified to help ensure learners gain the real-world experiences they need for success increases as well. Individuals with industry expertise provide a perspective to learners that traditional academic teachers may be unable to do, and can also help learners explore and connect with particular career opportunities. All states are facing a shortage of industry experts serving in these crucial learner-facing roles.

Panelists will discuss the challenge and strategies for addressing the shortage, including how employers can become involved.

**DATE:** February 28, 2018

**TIME:** 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

**LOCATION:** Rayburn Gold Room, 2168, 45 Independence Ave SW, Washington, DC 20515

Please RSVP to Adair Douglas at [adouglas@smrp.org](mailto:adouglas@smrp.org) or Devin Sears at [dsears@smrp.org](mailto:dsears@smrp.org)

### **Speakers:**

#### **Erin Erickson, The Society for Maintenance and Reliability Professionals (SMRP)**

*Ms. Erickson is the Executive Director of the Society for Maintenance and Reliability Professionals (SMRP) and will discuss the value of CTE to SMRP and our nation's economy.*

#### **Ashleigh McFadden, Advance CTE**

*Ms. McFadden is the State Policy Manager for Advance CTE she is responsible for managing the organization's role in the New Skills for Youth initiative and oversees Advance CTE's state policy and implementation strategy. She will discuss CTE in regards to state and federal policy.*

#### **Catherine Jacques, American Institute of Research (AIR)**

*Ms. Jacques is a Researcher at the American Institute of Research (AIR) her work focuses on systems and supports for educator effectiveness and development and for college- and career-readiness. She will discuss the specifics of Advance CTE and AIR's [report](#) regarding the need for industry experts to provide high school students real-world perspective and connections to work experience opportunities*

#### **Bob Chalker, National Association of Corrosion Engineers (NACE)**

*Mr. Chalker is the Chief Executive Officer of the National Association of Corrosion Engineers. He will discuss technical training efforts and merits.*

#### **Kermit Kaleba, National Skills Coalition**

*Mr. Kaleba is the Federal Policy Director at the National Skills Coalition. He will provide an overview of CTE and moderate the panel.*