



April 8, 2025

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tim Walberg
Chairman, Education and Workforce
Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Bobby Scott
Ranking Member, Education and
Workforce Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Johnson, Leader Jeffries, Chairman Walberg and Ranking Member Scott:

On behalf of the International Franchise Association (IFA), the world's oldest and largest organization representing franchising worldwide, I write to express our strong support of H.R. 2262, better known as the *Flexibility for Workers Education Act*.

The franchising community is comprised of approximately 830,876 franchise establishments that support nearly 9 million direct jobs, \$896.9 billion of economic output for the US economy and roughly 3 percent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP). These businesses operate in hundreds of business lines, including food and beverage, automotive, education, fitness, residential services, senior health services, salons, and hotels, all of which would benefit from passage of this legislation.

Most notably for franchise businesses, the *Flexibility for Workers Education Act* will allow businesses to offer voluntary training outside of work hours without that training counting towards employees' hours worked. By cutting red tape, this legislation makes it easier for businesses to encourage upward mobility and accelerate employees' growth with access to innovative education and skills development opportunities.

On behalf of the franchise sector, we thank you for your strong, bipartisan leadership and support on this meaningful legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Michael Layman', is positioned above the printed name.

Michael Layman
Chief Advocacy Officer