

# Professional Certifications

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Professional Certification Coalition



*#StrongEconomies*

# Professional Certification Coalition: *Federal and State Initiatives*

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PROFESSIONAL  
CERTIFICATION  
COALITION

# About the Professional Certification Coalition (PCC)

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION COALITION: 101

	100+ Member Organizations		50+ Industries & Professions
	Legislative & Regulatory Analysis		Federal & State Advocacy

# Private Professional Certification



## Key Elements

- Voluntary
- Granted by non-governmental organizations
- Reflect established standards defined by subject matter experts
- Credentials require establishing necessary qualifications and adhering to conduct codes



## Key Benefits

- Promotes competition and informed choice
- Enables the public to distinguish between qualified and unqualified professionals
- Prospective professionals can identify necessary skills and demonstrate mastery

# Certifications and Licensure Promote Opportunity

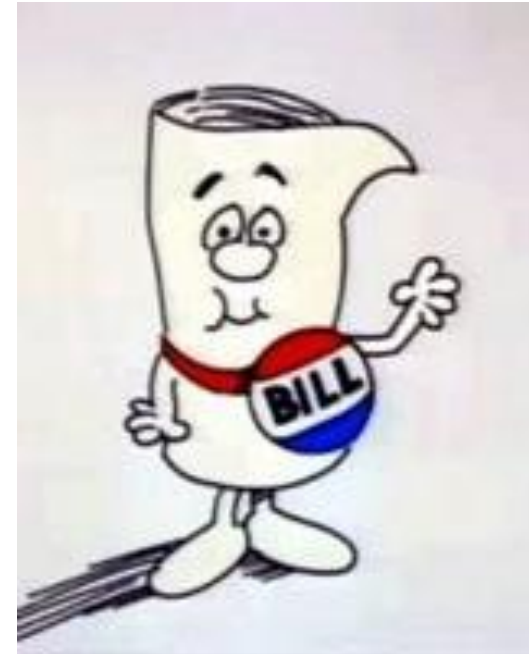
- According to a 2017 **Working Paper** from the *Human Capital and Economic Opportunity Global Working Group of the University of Chicago*, both **certification and occupational licensure reduce the racial wage gap among men by 43% and the gender wage gap between women and white men by 36%-40%.**





# Key State Legislative Areas

1. Occupational Licensing Reform
2. Government v. Private Certification
3. Consumer Choice Acts
4. Right to Earn a Living Acts
5. Ex-Offender Reentry Legislation
6. Clean Slate Legislation
7. Universal/Reciprocal Licensure
8. Restrictions on Discipline for Misinformation



# Federal Legislation: *Freedom to Invest in Tomorrow's Workforce Act*

## Senate: S. 905

Sponsors:



Senator Amy  
Klobuchar (D-MN)



Senator Mike  
Braun (R-IN)

## House: H.R. 2171

Sponsors:



Representative Abigail  
Spanberger (D-VA)



Representative  
Fred Upton (R-MI)

**Summary:** Expands eligible uses for 529 plans to cover costs to obtain and maintain certifications and other credentials.



# Federal Legislation: *REBUILD Skills Act* (in development)



Rep. Derek Kilmer (D-WA)



Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-MN)

**Summary:** Provides grants to certification programs and training programs to fund Career Rebuilding scholarships for displaced workers, returning military, and military spouses. Establishes federal database of qualified programs.



# Questions?

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