

July 2, 2010

The Honorable John Larson  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Larson,

The Corporation for Enterprise Development (CFED) supports Lifelong Learning Accounts (LiLAs) legislation. We are pleased that you will champion this legislation. If passed, LiLAs would provide a tool for workers across the United States to save money to improve their skills and job marketability via ongoing learning and education. This, in turn, will lead to stronger economic growth.

CFED is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to expanding economic opportunity. We advocate for programs and products that ease the financial burdens of receiving a quality education. From our research, we have found that most working adults cannot afford to pay the full cost of the education and training needed to stay valuable in the job market, and the political reality is that the government cannot shoulder the cost either.

LiLAs are innovative and convenient to those who are currently working and need further training or education to advance in their careers:

- LiLAs are worker-owned accounts that are portable if you lose or change your job
- LiLAs provide an additional degree of flexibility as workers are not required to be enrolled in a degree or certificate program as many individuals simply need one or two courses to obtain the skills required to advance in their careers
- Every working age American (between 18 and 70) is eligible to open an account, so Americans at any stage in their professional careers would have a change to gain new skills and have the funds to afford them
- Workers may receive a total of \$750 refundable tax credit for contributions to a LiLA. (50% for the first \$500 and 25% for the next \$2,000)

CFED stands ready to assist you with your introduction of Lifelong Learning Accounts legislation in order to increase access to lifelong learning.

Sincerely,

*Carol E. Wayman*

Carol E. Wayman  
Federal Policy Director