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## **World Floor Covering Association Highlights Advocacy Efforts in Joining Tomorrow's Workforce Coalition**

***Over 500 Groups Will Advocate to Help Pass the Freedom to Invest in Tomorrow's Workforce Act***

August 7, 2023 – Dalton, GA – The World Floor Covering Association (WFCA) proudly announces its involvement in the Tomorrow's Workforce Coalition, an alliance comprising over 500 trade associations, professional societies, businesses, and employers from more than 40 industries. The primary goal of this alliance is to advocate for the passage of the [Freedom to Invest in Tomorrow's Workforce Act](#) (S. 722 / H.R. 1477). Spearheaded by the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE) and the Professional Certification Coalition (PCC), the Tomorrow's Workforce Coalition aims to foster a robust workforce through enhanced education opportunities and credentialing.

The act, which has bipartisan sponsorship in the U.S. House and Senate, proposes a crucial expansion of qualified expenses under tax-advantaged 529 education savings plans to include postsecondary training and credentialing, such as licenses and professional certifications. By supporting this act, WFCA emphasizes its dedication to providing tax-advantaged resources that empower families, students, and workers, regardless of their educational background or

degree status, to pursue career growth and mid-career change, or pathways that diverge from a typical academic route. Workers and families could use 529 plans to help cover the following:

- credential program tuition, including prep courses
- testing fees, including practice exams
- required books and equipment
- continuing education and credential renewal
- other charges required to obtain and maintain a postsecondary credential

“WFCA, representing a broad spectrum of industry stakeholders, recognizes the vital role played by floorcovering installers within the flooring industry,” said Scott Humphrey, WFCA CEO. “These skilled professionals rely on specialized training and certifications to ensure the highest standards of craftsmanship and service. Expanding eligible uses for 529 plans would empower workers of any educational background, skill level, or age and would benefit all industries and professions that rely on employees with specialized training or recognized credentials and certifications, including [CFI certifications](#).”

The bill is led by Representatives Rob Wittman (R-Va.) and Abigail Spanberger (D-Va.) in the U.S. House of Representatives and Senators Amy Klobuchar (D-Minn.) and Mike Braun (R-Ind.) in the U.S. Senate.

WFCA invites all stakeholders in the floor covering industry and beyond to unite in advocacy efforts and join the Tomorrow's Workforce Coalition, contributing to the realization of a skilled and adaptable workforce capable of meeting the ever-evolving demands of various professions and industries.

### **About WFCA**

The World Floor Covering Association (WFCA), the official sponsor of The International Surface Event (TISE), is the floor covering industry's largest advocacy organization, representing floor covering retailers, contractors, and allied service providers throughout North America.

The WFCA is a recognized leader in marketing research and industry programs for flooring professionals. In addition, it publishes the only retailer-oriented trade periodical, *Premier Flooring Retailer*. As part of its mission to enhance the business environment for the independent flooring retailer, the WFCA acquired the Certified Flooring Installers Association (CFI) to resolve the industry's largest issue - the shortage of qualified installers. The WFCA runs fcB2B, a program committed to helping businesses in the industry transition to an e-commerce platform for all business transactions. The WFCA also influences public policy affecting the floor covering industry and consumers. For more information about the WFCA, visit [WFCA.org](http://WFCA.org).

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