



The Honorable Cheryl Youakim
Chairman
Committee on Education Finance
House of Representatives
443 State Office Building
St Paul, MN 55155

March 7, 2023

Dear Chairman Youakim,

As aviation manufacturers, we strongly support House File 2143, Career and Technical Education Pilot Program. HF 2143 will provide the development of a career technical training (CTE) aviation program for Independent School District No. 482, Little Falls, Minnesota. Under this program, Little Falls will serve as a pilot program for creating an aeronautics CTE training program, to provide critical technical training in aviation skills, which will include aviation mechanics and propulsion, paint, and flight operations. These critical skills can transition directly from a high school CTE programs to the workforce or provide a conduit for follow-on technical college or university education programs.

Growing and sustaining this critical workforce is essential to ensuring Minnesota's investment in the aerospace and aviation industries. According to the Minnesota Department of Transportation, Minnesota airports contribute \$18.2 billion annually to the State economy and over 22,818 Minnesotans work or support the aerospace and aviation industries.

Currently, the State of Minnesota, has three Federal Aviation Administration Certified Aircraft and Propulsion technical training programs. Through the creation of an aeronautics CTE aerospace and aviation training program, this will provide a direct pathway to grow Minnesota's aviation workforce and fill critical gaps facing the aviation industry.

We strongly support Minnesota's investment in aviation workforce training and programs promoting CTE training for our community's youth. These critical skills are again essential to growing our aerospace and aviation workforce.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark A. Schramek".

Mark A. Schramek
Executive Director, Corporate & Government Affairs
Cirrus Aircraft