

[Distribution letter: Employees, students, industry partners, etc.]

Proposed New York State legislation would give parents the right to enroll their teens in BOCES' career and technical education (CTE) programs if they are admitted. These programs provide students with the skills they need to enter union apprenticeships or go straight into the workforce in solid careers.

Currently, parents need school district permission for their teens to even apply to attend a BOCES' program.

With booming infrastructure projects throughout the state, there is a desperate need for qualified workers in all trades. Young artists also need access to quality programs. Let your New York legislators know that you support Assembly Bill 7846 and Senate Bill 6599.

Contact your legislators now! Email or call.

[Find your Assemblymember here.](#)

[Find your Senator here.](#)

Sincerely,

[insert name of sender]

### ***Sample email***

Dear [Insert Legislator name],

I am your constituent.

I am requesting your support and consideration for very important legislation – A.7846/S.6599.

All students should have the right to enroll in BOCES' career and technical education courses if they meet the program's requirements.

Currently, parents must ask their school district for permission to apply to a non-special education BOCES program. This can be a confusing, frustrating and fruitless process for parents if a district decides not to allow the student to apply.

It also perpetuates the stigma that trades or hands-on work is also bad for the economy and New York industries.

[insert your person story here – if applicable]

Every child has an inalienable right to a free and appropriate education. For some students, a traditional public-school experience does not constitute an appropriate

education. Parents who wish to send their children to charter schools have the explicit right to do so. This distinction and right should be granted to BOCES as well. **That way all children in New York will have an equitable opportunity to pursue the type of education that suits them best.**

Districts may not be able to provide all of the career training options that students desire. If a district only provides carpentry, plumbing and gaming, they are not satisfying the career aspirations of the student who wants to study aviation, cosmetology, fine arts or medical assisting.

Please see the attached rationale for more reasons to support this legislation. The other attachment provides an example of how to reduce the impact on school district budgets by limiting the number of students attending from any one district to 10% of the juniors and seniors.

**The children of New York need your support!**

Sincerely,

[insert name of sender]