

July 19, 2007

08-019

ENDORSE SKILLS2COMPETE CAMPAIGN

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REPORT: Skills2Compete is an emerging national campaign with the objective of ensuring that the U.S. workplace has the skills needed to meet business demand, foster innovation, and grow broadly shared prosperity. The campaign is non-partisan and seeks national discussion about a new guaranteed level of education reflecting public opinion that skills beyond high school are not a privilege, but a public good.

The campaign is sponsored by The Workforce Alliance, a national coalition of community-based organizations, community colleges, unions, business leaders, and local governments. The Alliance's aims are to:

- increase our nation's investment in the skills of its workplace
- expand access to education and training for all workers
- measure policies by their success in developing self-sufficient workers
- promote and reward local innovations

Major funders of The Workforce Alliance include the Ford, Joyce, McKnight, Merck, Mott, and Rockefeller foundations.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board authorize Portland Community College's endorsement of the Skills2Compete campaign.