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CEE Policy Issue: **Entrepreneurship Teacher Preparation**

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The US is experiencing a massive problem of students dropping out without the skills to succeed in advanced education or perform successfully in their jobs. According to studies it was partly attributed to boredom with school and the need for education to be more relevant to the real world. At the same time, the growth and demands of today's expanding global economy call for a highly educated, skilled workforce that can meet the needs of companies competing in this global environment.

Routine work can be automated or off-shored. Economics dictates automation of more jobs. One reason that the rest of the world would be willing to pay Americans twice as much as equally competent people is if we add creativity and innovation.

The message is clear. In order for Americans to compete in this highly competitive environment, we must prepare tomorrow's workforce with academic, entrepreneurial and problem solving skills. This requires revolutionary thinking and creative approaches in education.

Entrepreneurship has emerged as an exciting career choice for young people who are learning that they have the power within to create their own job and make it grow.

Our challenge is to create a unique approach to bring entrepreneurship to all students at all levels of education. The Consortium for Entrepreneurship Education has developed an answer to bring entrepreneurship preparation to all teachers so that they can prepare students for the opportunities of the 21st Century. The 29th ANNUAL National Entrepreneurship Education Forum is a professional development conference bringing opportunities for educators to learn from their peers and entrepreneurs. Perkins funding often supports teachers' participation who have little or no business expertise as they learn from real life case studies and the experiences of entrepreneurship educators from all over the nation.

How can teachers be expected to teach entrepreneurship without professional development opportunities?

COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS?

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