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high productivity increases, rapid technological changes, heavy investment in capital, global competition, and high business mobility. In many ways, these changes that are occurring are not just rapid; they are revolutionary. Supporting this worker training measure would bring tremendous benefits to our communities by allowing us to provide targeted help to rural areas, while expanding the state's revenue base by creating better paying jobs. The job training would utilize the programs offered by postsecondary technical schools, community college, and other educational institutions. This training would help reverse the troubling demographic trends we...

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Time. Thank you, Senator Engel. (Visitors introduced.) On to the next speaker. Senator Synowiecki.

SENATOR SYNOWIECKI: Thank you, Senator Schimek. Senator Engel, would you yield for a quick question?

SENATOR ENGEL: Yes, I would, Senator.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Senator Engel.

SENATOR ENGEL: Yes.

SENATOR SYNOWIECKI: Senator Engel, as you're very well aware, and I'm sure it happens quite often in your district, in my district, I have labor unions that provide workshops and apprenticeship programs and job training programs, and without question some of these programs that are offered by the labor unions in our state are some of the best job preparation programs in the state, particularly as they relate to apprenticeship programs. Just wanted to ascertain for the record and make certain that these funds that are being made available under this amendment can be tapped by them labor unions to help fortify their job training programs.

SENATOR ENGEL: The answer to that is, yes, they will, and I believe the labor unions have endorsed this, the bill itself.

SENATOR SYNOWIECKI: Okay. Senator Engel, I appreciate that. I know you have some more information you want to give us. I