

H. Res. 677

In the House of Representatives, U.S.,

February 28, 2006.

Whereas the Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that, while there are 1.3 million automotive technicians currently employed, industry figures confirm that an additional 50,000 technicians are needed to fill open positions each year;

Whereas the National Automotive Dealers Association reports that 57 percent of their dealers' operating profit is generated by their parts and service departments; that dealers consider it difficult to find a qualified technician; and that 42 percent of all dealer technicians have been engaged in that line of work less than one year;

Whereas the National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing, Inc. ("NASCAR"), the NASCAR Universal Technical Institute, and a collaboration of Historically Black Colleges and Universities ("HBCUs") have agreed to create a strategic alliance focused on increasing the number and quality of job opportunities for African-American students in key racing and other related automotive business activities including automotive engineering and technology, automotive safety, sports marketing, and other automotive industry areas;

Whereas NASCAR and its partner HBCUs are establishing a formal structure to increase the number and quality of

job opportunities for African-American students with NASCAR in key racing and other related automotive business activities through the NASCAR Universal Training Institute and the NASCAR Diversity Internship Program;

Whereas NASCAR has agreed to efforts to enhance the identification of employment opportunities with NASCAR such as Internships, full time jobs, including entry level management positions, part-time jobs for college students, and post-graduate job placement for students pursuing undergraduate and graduate degrees at partner HBCUs;

Whereas NASCAR and its partner HBCUs have developed a program to increase awareness, access to, and participation by African-American students in the NASCAR Universal Training Institute and NASCAR Diversity Internship Program by partner HBCUs for the racing and other related automotive industries; and

Whereas NASCAR and the partner HBCUs will seek opportunities to establish and enhance the funding of targeted job development activities by partner HBCUs, and to generate support for the HBCUs in their efforts to enhance curriculum development in sports marketing, finance, human resource management and other automotive industry areas: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes the National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing, Inc., the NASCAR Universal Technical Institute, and a collaboration of Historically Black Colleges and Universities, and their creation of a stra-

tegic alliance to increase the number and quality of job opportunities for African-American students in key racing and other related automotive business activities;

(2) commends NASCAR, the NASCAR Universal Technical Institute, the NASCAR Technical Training Institute, and the Historically Black Colleges and Universities, for their efforts to increase the number and quality of job opportunities for African-American students in key racing and other related automotive business activities; and

(3) encourages the Departments of Education and Labor and other appropriate agencies of the Federal government to support this effort.

Attest:

Clerk.