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**To:** "Ray Jensen" <[rj@mtaonline.net](mailto:rj@mtaonline.net)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 12, 2020 9:12:43 AM  
**Subject:** [ADV] SkillsUSA Board of Directors Coronavirus Response Update



Dear SkillsUSA family,

SkillsUSA's mission, as we are all well aware, is to empower our members to become world-class workers, leaders and responsible American citizens. We do not commit ourselves to that mission solely in times of ease and tranquility, but also during times that challenge us; it's during those times that the proud flame of our mission burns most brightly.

The current health crisis related to the coronavirus pandemic is one of those times, and on behalf of SkillsUSA's board of directors, I wanted to give each of you an update on how the national organization is currently dealing with this dynamic situation.

As you might expect, the SkillsUSA board, along with executive director Ms. Chelle Travis, has participated in many critical conversations regarding the health and wellness of all our members, supporters and friends over the last several hours.

While SkillsUSA continues to empower the state associations to direct their own affairs, the nature of this particular moment in our history leads us to strongly encourage the postponement or structural alteration of any state events planned over the next 30 days until we can better assess the situation with updated facts and expert guidance. Again, this is not a directive; we do not want to infringe on the leadership of individual states, boards and local leaders.

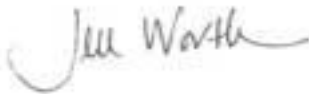
Out of an abundance of caution, however, we believe it's in the best interests of our states and partners to earnestly consider this advice, especially if they

desire to model their reactions after ours.

On the national level, SkillsUSA staff is working with the executive director to alter work styles while designing alternative plans for our national events should those plans become necessary to institute. Rest assured, these decisions are not made lightly, but with measured and responsible consideration of all the relevant data we're able to gather. Board members will have emergency meetings as required. State directors — many of whom are already having regular communications with Ms. Travis — will be informed as quickly as possible of our final decisions, each of which will be made with the safety of our members and stakeholders as our primary concern.

This crisis impacts all of us, and it's important to remember that we're all in this together. SkillsUSA has always been about facing challenges with personal, professional and leadership skills, and this situation — however unsettling — is an opportunity to demonstrate how powerful those skills can be. We will face this temporary crisis with that thought in mind, and, together, we will overcome it.

Most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jen Worth".

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