

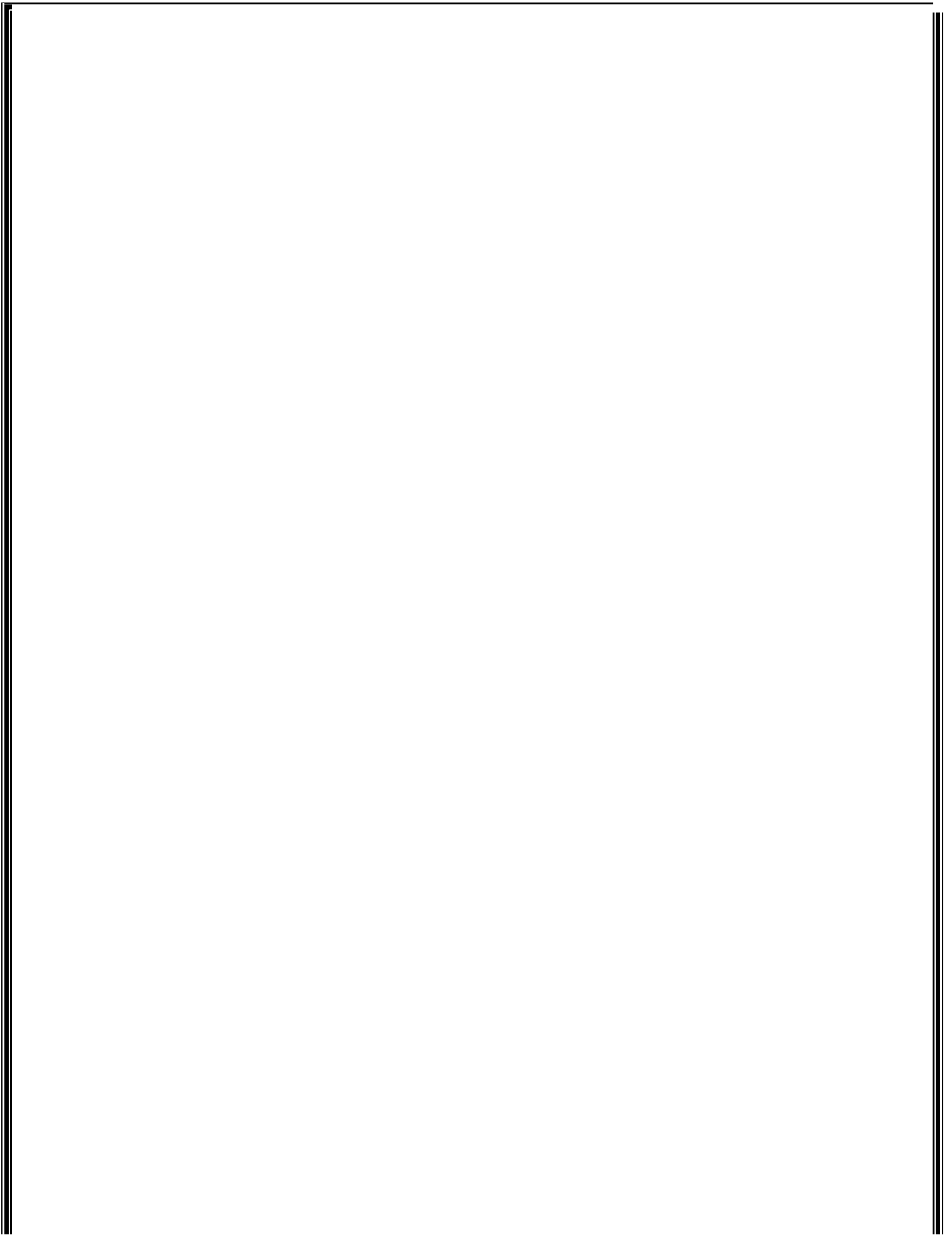
While the nation once had a thriving public vocational-technical educational program that provided training for a host of skills, including construction, many of those programs have been closed over the past several decades. One reason is that

*Why an Industry that Shed Two Million Jobs has a Hard Time Finding Workers*

While

**Reform and Reinvigorate the Perkins Act.** Congress and the administration must work together to make a number of reforms to the Carl D. Perkins Career & Technical Education Act the primary federal funding vehicle for career and technical education programs. For example, the act should be amended to give states increased flexibility to select and fund high-quality training programs in response to labor market needs. In addition, the legislation should give states increased autonomy to establish sector partnerships focused on promoting collaboration among





## **Conclusion**

As demand continues to pick up around