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State of Iowa
Eighty-Second General Assembly
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Des Moines, Iowa 50319

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December 12, 2007

Mr. Ken Kay
President
Partnership for 21st Century Skills
177 N. Church Avenue, Suite 105
Tucson, AZ 85701

Dear Mr. Kay:

I am pleased to support the Iowa Department of Education's application to be a Partnership for 21st Century Skills Leadership State (P21 Leadership State). Iowa is moving forward with integrating 21st century skills in the Iowa Core Curriculum in grades K-12. This was mandated during the 2007 legislative session.

Iowa is known for providing an excellent education to students and the state continues to strive to provide a high quality and relevant education to students. This year I co-chaired an interim committee focused on Iowa's skilled worker shortage. I am convinced that education will be even more involved in helping create a skilled worker pipeline for Iowa's future economic growth. This will be crucial to their success in Iowa's workforce and will allow us to compete in a global economy.

I believe this is a worthwhile effort for the state to undertake and look forward to hearing that Iowa's application has been accepted as a P21 Leadership State.

Sincerely,

State Representative Roger Thomas
Chairman Economic Growth Committee
Co-chair Iowa Skilled Worker Shortage Committee