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CHANNELLOCK, INC., TO MEET WITH FEDERAL OFFICIALS IN SUPPORT OF SKILLSUSA ADVOCACY DAY

Meetings will be held with U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Labor

WASHINGTON, D.C. (FEB. 4, 2019) – Channellock, Inc., will participate in SkillsUSA Advocacy Day as an official lead sponsor of SkillsUSA Week. A Channellock executive and the SkillsUSA national officers will meet with leaders of the U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Labor to discuss key partnership opportunities and initiatives to close the skills gap.

“Advocacy Day is all about promoting our organization,” said Tim Lawrence, SkillsUSA executive director. “We want key leaders to know how SkillsUSA is working to close the skills gap. We plan to discuss our credential program for high school and college students and ask the departments about their policy priorities. We want to make sure that career and technical education is on their list.”

The national officers, members of the SkillsUSA national staff and Channellock representatives will start the day meeting with the U.S. Department of Education. The team will divide to meet with the U.S. Department of Labor and four congressional chairs of the Career and Technical Education Caucuses, including Sen. Kaine (Va.); Sen. Portman (Ohio); Rep. Langevin (R.I.); and Rep. Thompson (Pa.). The day will end with a photo opportunity with Senator Casey (Pa.).

“We are excited to participate in SkillsUSA Advocacy Day,” said Ryan DeArment, vice president of sales and marketing at Channellock, Inc., and member of the fifth generation of family leadership. “Advocacy Day is a great opportunity for students to learn how to discuss important issues with key decision makers. This event puts SkillsUSA at the forefront of the officials minds and teaches students to advocate for their education and future careers.”

SkillsUSA Week is a week of events where students, instructors and corporate partners come together to raise awareness about its programs and activities. SkillsUSA Week’s Advocacy Day is designed to address state and local legislators, school board members, administrators and community group leaders to promote SkillsUSA and advocate for career and technical education.

SkillsUSA serves more than 360,000 students and instructors annually, empowering members to become world-class workers, leaders and responsible American citizens. SkillsUSA is dedicated to improving the quality of our nation's workforce through personal, workplace and technical skills grounded in academics.

About Channellock, Inc.

Channellock, Inc., is a worldwide leader in the manufacture of high-quality pliers and assorted hand tools, including the iconic, American-made CHANNELLOCK® Tongue-and-Groove plier, which can be found in quality retailers around the world. All CHANNELLOCK® pliers and 94% of all CHANNELLOCK® products are made in the USA. Founded by George B. DeArment in 1886, the Meadville, Pennsylvania-based company is now in its fifth generation of family ownership and operation. For more information on CHANNELLOCK® products, the company's rich history, sales contacts and current news, visit www.channellock.com. To stay connected with Channellock, Inc., like us on [Facebook](#) or follow CHANNELLOCK® on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

About SkillsUSA

Endorsed by the U.S. Department of Education, SkillsUSA serves more than 360,000 students and instructors each year in middle schools, high schools and colleges. The diverse talent pipeline covers 130 trade, technical and skilled service occupations, the majority STEM-related. More than 600 corporations, trade associations, businesses and labor unions actively support SkillsUSA at the national level. SkillsUSA supports its student members through the development of SkillsUSA Framework skills that include personal, workplace and technical skills grounded in academics. Local, state and national championships, designed and judged by industry, set relevant standards for career and technical education provide recognition opportunities for students. SkillsUSA also offers technical skill assessments and workplace credentials through the Career Essentials Suite, a cutting-edge solution that defines, implements and measures career readiness skills for students. For more information: www.SkillsUSA.org.