Press Release

AAF Releases Menu of Options to Grow the Labor Force

PATRICK HEFFLINGER | DECEMBER 8, 2017

The American Action Forum released a menu of options to increase the labor force participation rate. AAF analysis shows that while the overall labor force participation rate began declining during the Great Recession, the participation rate of prime-age men (those ages 25 to 54) has been declining for half a century and the participation rate of prime-age women has been stagnant since the 1990s. The analysis highlights a number of actions policymakers could take to reverse the downward trend, which include:

- Expanding the Earned Income Tax Credit for childless adults
- Introducing work requirements to Medicaid
- Reforming disability insurance
- Adding work requirements and skills development programs to child support enforcement, food stamps, and housing assistance
- Repealing the Affordable Care Act
- Expanding access to paid family leave
- Reducing opioid dependency
- Reforming the criminal justice system
- Improving workforce training

Click here to read the full analysis.