

TO: Executive Committee

DATE: 04/02/07

FROM: WIB Staff

For Action

For Information

For Discussion

SUBJECT: Merced County Workforce Investment Board Recertification

PROPOSED MOTION(S): Information only.

DISCUSSION: The Merced County Workforce Investment Board has been recertified by the California Workforce Investment Board (State Board). This recertification will be in effect from December 1, 2006 through November 30, 2008, or – in the event that Congress reauthorizes or extends the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) of 1998 during the two-year period – for the duration of California’s current WIA Strategic Two-Year Plan.

The State Board has also approved the formation of a staff-level team to address the technical implementation of Senate Bill (SB) 293. This bill addresses the requirement to have a 15% representation on each WIB from Labor. At this time, the Merced County Workforce Investment Board is not in compliance with SB 293. Additional Labor representation is required.

**ATTACHMENT(S):
CalWIB Letter**



Arnold
Schwarzenegger
Governor

Lawrence Gottlieb
Chair

Chris Essel
Vice-Chair

February 21, 2007

Ms. Nellie McGarry, Chair
Merced County Workforce Investment Board
1880 West Wardrobe Avenue
Merced, CA 95340

RE: Merced County Workforce Investment Board Recertification

On November 30, 2006, the California Workforce Investment Board (State Board) voted to recertify 49 of California's Local Workforce Investment Boards (LWIBs). This recertification will be in effect from December 1, 2006, through November 30, 2008, or – in the event that Congress reauthorizes or extends the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) of 1998 during this two-year period – for the duration of California's current WIA Strategic Two-Year Plan. Should reauthorization or extension come to pass before November 30, 2008, the State Board will revisit the issue of recertification of California LWIBs in light of the new federal legislation.

Local Workforce Investment Boards are recertified in accordance with WIA Section 117(c)(2), which specifies that the Governor shall certify one local board for each Local Workforce Investment Area once every two years. Your Board's recertification is based on information you provided to the Employment Development Department (EDD) in response to WIA Directive WIAD06-7.

At the meeting, the State Board also approved the formation of a staff-level team, co-led by State Board and EDD staff, to collaboratively address the technical implementation of Senate Bill (SB) 293, which was signed into law in September 2006. That team will review issues associated with the recertification of Local Boards and, more specifically, with Local Board composition and functioning. Recommendations for improving the recertification process will be submitted to the State Board at the earliest opportunity and will include:

- Strengthening technical assistance to Local Boards that are out of compliance, and providing it on an ongoing basis;

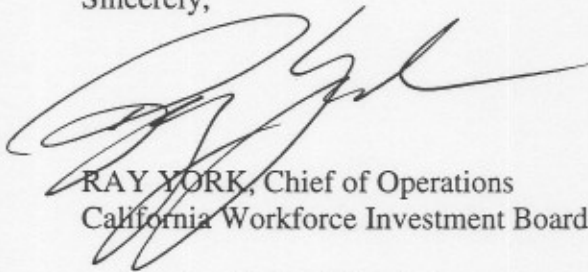
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- Incentive (e.g., eligibility for 15 Percent Discretionary grants) that the State Board can use to support Local Boards' efforts to comply with federal law;
- A clear process and timetable, in the event of non-compliance, that could lead to potential de-certification of the non-compliant Local Board.

The State will monitor the Local Boards for full compliance.

We look forward to working with you to ensure the quality of service California job seekers and employers have come to expect from our state's workforce system.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ray York', is written over the typed name and title.

RAY YORK, Chief of Operations
California Workforce Investment Board

cc: Andrea Baker, Director)