

TO: Workforce Investment Board

DATE: 9/18/08

FROM: WIB Staff

For Action

For Information

For Discussion

SUBJECT: Fostering Employment Opportunities and the Youth Opportunity Program (YOP)

PROPOSED MOTION(S): None. For information only.

DISCUSSION: On August 1, 2008, the Merced Sun Star ran a story about House Resolution 1332, the Fostering Employment Opportunities Act. The same story made connections to the Youth Opportunity Program (WIA Youth Program). The letter to Congressman Cardoza is to inform him that Federal Workforce Investment Act funding is responsible for the Youth Opportunity Program in Merced County.

Additionally, the letter displays WIB support for programs that provide employment guidance to youth and young adults.

ATTACHMENT(S):

Application will be available at the meeting.



**WORKFORCE
INVESTMENT BOARD**
MERCED COUNTY

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August 4, 2008

The Honorable Dennis Cardoza
U.S. House of Representatives
435 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Cardoza:

The Workforce Investment Board of Merced County applauds your leadership and support in providing foster youth the guidance needed to land a first job or internship in a field they see themselves working as adults. The front page story printed in the Merced Sun Star (8/1/08) makes connections between the goals of House Resolution 1332, the Fostering Employment Opportunities Act and the Youth Opportunity Program (YOP) currently in effect in Merced County.

The Merced County Workforce Investment Board (WIB) would like to point out that it is federal Workforce Investment Act dollars that is the primary funding mechanism which helps provide YOP program participants the tools necessary to prepare themselves for the employment world.

The Merced County WIB joins you in recognizing the need to better prepare our nation's youth with employability skills that will assist them as they enter the workforce. We look forward to working with you as Congress takes action on your proposed legislation.

Sincerely,

Albert Montejano
Chairman