

Executive Summary
PITD Proposal to the Governor's Nursing Workforce Initiative

On January 23, 2002, Governor Gray Davis announced his three-year, \$60 million Nursing Workforce Initiative to address California's shortage of licensed nurses. The purpose of the NWI is to increase the pool of licensed nurses by recruiting, training, and placing new and returning nurses, and retaining incumbent nurses. On June 4, 2002, the first Request for Proposals to the NWI was released making \$28 million in funding available.

The Private Industry Training Department (PITD) intends to submit an application to the NWI on behalf of a regional consortium of partners. PITD anticipates requesting up to \$2 million from the NWI and will act as administrative and fiscal agent for the project. Expected partners will include educators, employers, union/professional organizations, and Workforce Investment Boards from Madera, Mariposa, Merced, Stanislaus, and Tuolumne counties. The deadline for applications is July 31, 2002 and funding decisions are expected within three months of submission.

Some of the activities expected to be accomplished under this proposal include: recruiting students into healthcare programs, providing enrichment courses for nursing students, transporting students to classes and clinical sites, upgrading Certified Nurse Assistants to Licensed Vocational Nurses, upgrading Licensed Vocational Nurses to Registered Nurses, implementing retention plans with local nurse employers, and expanding distance education opportunities.