

TO: Workforce Investment Board

DATE: 07/09/09

FROM: WIB Staff

For Action

For Information

For Discussion

SUBJECT: California New Start – Prison-to-Employment Program

PROPOSED MOTION(S): None. Information only.

DISCUSSION: The Merced Department of Workforce Investment is the subrecipient of additional State funding in the amount of \$40,109. The purpose is to improve vocational aptitude of offenders while in custody, and increase the likelihood of their secured employment upon release from prison. In addition, the program establishes partnerships with a network of local career centers, and connects parolees to local employment opportunities.

The Local Workforce Investment Board (WIB) shall:

- **Provide funds to its One-Stop Career Centers to serve the parolee population with core, intensive and training services as deemed appropriate for the parolee.**
- **Participate in Parole and Community Team local meetings coordinated by the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) Division of Adult Parole Operations (DAPO)**
- **Market the employability of parolees to prospective employers.**
- **Participate in employer stakeholder forums with CDCR.**
- **Create lists of employers ready to hire parolees, and maintain the list as additional employers are identified.**
- **Submit a 3-5 page plan by September 1, 2009, detailing how funding will be utilized to serve parolees.**

The newly formed WIB Quality Employment Development Ad Hoc Committee will review options for this new funding, and make its recommendations to the WIB.

ATTACHMENT(S):