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April 13, 2012

Division of WIA Adult Services and Workforce System
Employment and Training Administration
U.S. Department of Labor
200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Room S-4209
Washington, DC 20210
ATTN: Heather Fleck

Dear Ms. Fleck:

Oregon requests a temporary extension of our current WIA Title I/Wagner-Peyser Plan, current negotiated performance levels and all currently approved waivers. Oregon intends to submit a new five-year plan on September 15, 2012. The Oregon Workforce Investment Board (OWIB) has been carrying out a strategic planning process and the extra time will allow for developing state and local strategies and more inclusion of stakeholders statewide.

Timing of Strategic Planning and Stakeholder Involvement

Our process began with a review of the effectiveness of our current strategic plan, *Winning in the Global Market*. This phase of the work resulted in a "report card" of the plan and a gap analysis and recommendations for updating the plan. The second phase is to actually update the plan. The OWIB, the Governor's Workforce Policy Cabinet, and the Local Workforce Investment Boards and partners are all very much involved. Documents relating to the strategic planning process may be found at <http://www.worksourceoregon.org/state-workforce-board/statewide-strategic-plan>.

OWIB's overarching strategic plan is scheduled to be completed by June 30. However, a state and local implementation process will start in July. It is expected that implementation planning will further inform the strategies for the WIA/Wagner-Peyser State Plan and will allow for even more intensive participation by stakeholders at all levels.

Waivers to be Extended

Oregon's current waivers for which an extension is requested are:

- Waiver to permit the state to replace the performance measures at WIA Section 136(b) with the common measures;
- Waiver of the provision at 20 CFR 663.530 that prescribes a time limit on the period of initial eligibility for training providers;
- Waiver of WIA Section 134(a) to permit local areas to use a portion of local funds for incumbent worker training;

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- Waiver of WIA Section 134(a)(1)(A) to permit a portion of the funds received for rapid response activities to be used for incumbent worker training; and
- Waiver of the prohibition at 20 CFR 664.510 in the use of Individual Training Accounts for older and out-of-school youth.

Thank you very much for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Camille Preus
Commissioner
Oregon Department of
Community Colleges and
Workforce Development



Laurie Warner
Director
Oregon Employment Department

C:

Todd Yamamoto, DOL
Greg White, OWIB
Karen Humelbaugh, CCWD
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