



NOV - 4 2013

The Honorable Rick Perry
Governor of Texas
Post Office Box 12428
Austin, Texas 78711

Dear Governor Perry:

The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) is pleased to respond to your requests for waivers of statutory and regulatory requirements under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA). This action is taken under the Secretary's authority to waive certain requirements of WIA Title I, Subtitles B and E, and sections 8-10 of the Wagner-Peyser Act. The original requests were written in the format identified in WIA section 189(i)(4)(B) and 20 CFR 661.420(c), and meet the standard for approval at 20 CFR 661.420(e). The following is the disposition of the State's waiver extension requests (copy enclosed).

Waiver of WIA Section 129(b)(2)(C) and 20 CFR 665.200(h) to exempt the state from the requirement to provide additional assistance to local areas that have a high concentration of eligible youth.

The State is requesting an extension of the requirement to provide additional assistance to local areas that have a high concentration of eligible youth. The State is granted this waiver effective July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014. ETA views this waiver as a temporary measure associated with the impact of recent annual reductions in Governor's reserve funds. ETA will reconsider approval of this waiver on an annual basis.

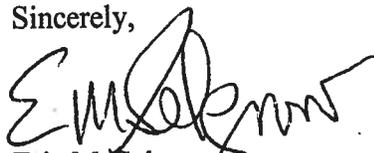
Waiver of WIA Section 134(a)(2)(B)(iii) and 20 CFR 665.200(e) to exempt a State from the requirement to provide local workforce investment area incentive grants.

The State has requested an extension of the requirement to provide local workforce investment areas incentive grants to reward regional cooperation, local coordination of activities, and exemplary performance. The State is granted an extension of this waiver effective July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014. ETA views this waiver as a temporary measure associated with the impact of recent annual reductions in Governor's reserve funds. ETA will reconsider approval of this waiver on an annual basis.

The approved waivers are incorporated by reference into the State's WIA Grant Agreement, as provided for under paragraph 3 of the executed Agreement, and this constitutes a modification of the State Plan. A copy of this letter should be filed with the State's WIA Grant Agreement and the approved State Plan. In addition, as required by TEGP No. 29-11, the State should address the impact this waiver has had on the State's performance in the WIA annual performance report, due on October 1 of each year.

We look forward to continuing our partnership with you and achieving better workforce outcomes. If you have any questions related to the issues discussed above, please contact Kajuana Donahue, the Federal Project Officer for Texas, at (972) 850-4613 or Donahue.Kajuana@dol.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric M. Seleznow". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Eric M. Seleznow
Acting Assistant Secretary

Enclosure

cc: Nicholas E. Lalpui, Acting Regional Administrator, ETA Dallas Regional Office
Kajuana Donahue, Federal Project Officer for Texas

Texas Workforce Commission

A Member of Texas Workforce Solutions

Andres Alcantar, Chairman
Commissioner Representing
the Public

Ronald G. Congleton
Commissioner Representing
Labor

Hope Andrade
Commissioner Representing
Employers

Larry E. Temple
Executive Director

September 24, 2013

Mr. Nicholas Lalpuis
Acting Regional Administrator, Region IV
U.S. Department of Labor
Employment and Training Administration
A. Maceo Smith Federal Building
525 Griffin Street, Room 317
Dallas, Texas 75202

Dear Mr. Lalpuis:

On behalf of the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC), the state operational entity for the Title I Workforce Investment Act (WIA), I respectfully request approval of the enclosed waiver requests for the State of Texas. The waivers were developed in accordance with the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) Employment and Training Administration's Training and Employment Guidance Letter No. 9-11.

TWC is requesting waivers of the requirements of:

- WIA §134(a)(2)(B)(iii) and 20 CFR §665.200(e), regarding the provision of incentive grants to local workforce development areas (workforce areas); and
- WIA §129(b)(2)(C) and 20 CFR §665.200(h), regarding the provision of additional assistance to workforce areas with high concentrations of eligible youth.

Beginning in Program Year 2011 (PY'11), and continuing through PY'12, Congress decreased the amount of funding for statewide activities from 15 percent to 5 percent. The reduction restricts the state's ability to effectively fund and carry out all required statewide WIA activities. TWC's goal in seeking these waivers is to ensure that the state can prioritize use of funds in the governor's reserve for the required activities deemed most essential to the basic functions of the workforce investment system, which may be insufficient to cover the cost of:

- incentive grants to workforce areas; and
- providing additional assistance to workforce areas with high concentrations of eligible youth to ensure that youth most in need are prioritized within each workforce area's WIA youth allocation.

Additionally, TWC is requesting that the waivers be approved through June 30, 2017, to align with the waivers approved by DOL in its December 11, 2012, letter. Coordination of the waiver end dates on all of Texas' waivers will reduce the administrative burden to the state and DOL.

TWC acknowledges that in the event the governor's reserve is restored to the full 15 percent, DOL may withdraw approval of these waivers.

Relay Texas: 800-735-2989 (TDD) 800-735-2988 (Voice) • www.texasworkforce.org

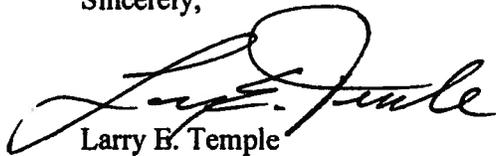
Equal Opportunity Employer / Program

-TEXAS-
WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS
~ * * * ~

Nicholas Lalpuis
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We appreciate the opportunity to submit these waiver requests and look forward to receiving the Secretary's approval. If you have questions or require additional information, please contact Debbie Carlson, Director, Workforce and UI Policy and Program Assistance, at (512) 463-2675.

Sincerely,

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Larry E. Temple
Executive Director

Enclosures (2)