

Legislative Advisory Committee **DRAFT** Meeting Notes

March 18, 2010

In Attendance: John Larkin, Maureen Moriarty, and Steve Cassano

Staff: Tom Phillips, Sandy Rodriguez, Jim Boucher and Suzanne Dutilly

State Update:

- **Governor's FY 09-10 Budget Mitigation Plan**-Tom Phillips noted two items on the plan that will affect CWP- Suspended funding for the Connecticut Youth Employment Plan, and Suspended funding for Incumbent Worker Training. John Larkin added that the state will have to borrow money because the legislature is saying they do not want to increase taxes. Steve Cassano noted that Connecticut has been the last state in job creation in the nation for the past 20 years and added he is concerned about the comments from the Pratt and Whitney executive about doing business in Connecticut. Steve asked what CWP should do to address this issue and suggested getting labor involved in the discussion. John Larkin added that the state is not doing its part in addressing the issue and the legislature has its head in the sand.
- **Governor's Proposed FY 10-11 Budget**-Tom noted the Governor is eliminating the Youth Employment Program this year and next year, funding for the Jobs Funnel program has been cut but not eliminated, and Incumbent Worker Training dollars will stay the same. He added he is confident we will be able to maintain the JFES program next year because Connecticut would be sanctioned by the government if it closed down the program.
- **ARRA TANF Emergency Funds-State Application Update**- Tom noted that Connecticut and Rhode Island are the only two New England states applying for this emergency funding. The plan is completed and if funded, the Governor wants to announce this as a jobs creation move that will create 5400 jobs and bring in \$133 million for the state. If funded, CWP will receive close to \$4 million.
- **Current/Future Advocacy Strategy**- Tom noted CWP's strategy is to protect what we have and to continue advocating for the Summer Youth Employment and Mortgage Crisis Job Training Programs.
- **Mortgage Crisis Job Training Program Funding Update**-Tom reviewed the material noting that the money to fund the program came from the Banking Fund, adding it was the only program of its kind in the nation and was a unique partnership of the state's workforce system and the Connecticut Housing and Financing Authority. CWP Board Member Tom Mongellow, who is the treasurer for the CT Bankers Association, is working closely with Senator Bob Duff and Representative Ryan Barry to find funding to restart the program.

Federal Update:

- **ARRA WIA Formula Funds-Expenditure Update**-Tom Phillips reviewed the chart noting that the ARRA State Energy Sector Partnership & Training Grant with CETC as the applicant was the only ARRA federal funding CWP received. For ARRA state funding, CWP received \$150,000 for an Alternative Education Program at the Opportunity High School; \$150,000 for Adult Education at the Hartford Adult Education Center; \$120,000 to fund the continuation of community college allied health career advisors, \$68,842 for Incumbent Worker Training and \$1,082,229 for recruitment, training and placement of individuals into weatherization jobs.
- **President's Proposed FY 11 Budget-Workforce Development Programs**-Tom reviewed the proposed budget: Adult Formula-\$861 million; Dislocated Workers-\$1.413 million; Youth Formula-\$871 million; Employ Service State Grants-\$703 million. He noted that the \$85 million for Green Jobs and \$321 million for WIA Innovation Grants will be released as competitive grants.
- **WIA Reauthorization Status**-Steve Cassano reported he met with Dave Bradley, CEO of the National Workforce Association, who said there is no way WIA will be reauthorized this year as Congress is too busy with health care. Steve added he also met with Representative Courtney who confirmed that health care is dominating everything.

Other:

Next meeting is Wednesday, April 14 from 1:30-3 p.m. in the New Britain Room at Capital Workforce Partners.