



The slow pace of economic recovery and protracted high unemployment rates, coupled with deficit reduction pressures, make real job creation solutions seem a distant possibility. However, there is a solution before you and you can make a difference. Join your colleagues in the Senate and the House as they strive to provide adequate resources and put Americans back to work by strengthening and modernizing America's Real "Jobs" Bill – The **Workforce Investment Act (WIA)**. These efforts build upon key WIA strengths:

- 600+ Workforce Boards lead by 13,000 business leaders charged with identifying and addressing local business and job seeker needs
- Accountability through return-on-investment outcome measures including - job placement, earnings gains, employment retention and skills attainment.
- Job Creation strategies through One-Stop Career Centers that enhance worker productivity through Work Readiness and Job Skills Training while reducing the risk of hiring new workers through private sector employer-based Work Experience and On-the-Job Training strategies.
- These successful strategies resulted in over 4 Million individuals placed in jobs during the height of this most devastating recession (based on the most recent full-year data).

Even as the recovery moves forward, employers decry the lack of qualified workers and the long-term unemployed lament the lack of available jobs. While there may be some truth in both claims, we in the Workforce Investment System know that real job opportunities are growing daily and work-ready individuals are available, or are preparing themselves for those jobs. What is needed is a renewed effort to bring employers and job seekers together through America's Workforce Investment System – under a renewed Workforce Investment Act.

As representatives of the Great Lakes Employment and Training Association (GLETA), representing the 138 Workforce Boards and the One-Stop Career Center Systems in ten Midwestern States (Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, and Wisconsin), we want to inform you of the need to take direct action to aid job creation in the Mid-West and across the nation. We encourage your support of the efforts of your colleagues who know that a strengthened Workforce Investment System can play a pivotal role in bringing unemployed workers and growing businesses together to spur economic recovery. Workforce Development has always been a bi-partisan effort. Continue that tradition and seize this opportunity for a real win-win solution to benefit employers, job seekers and the economy.

There are effective, workforce solutions being implemented every day by high performing Workforce Boards and One Stop Career Center Systems: Industry Partnerships, Sector Strategies, Business-Based training models, targeted initiatives for veterans, youth, individuals with disabilities, older workers and successful efforts to more quickly move Unemployment Insurance recipients from joblessness to meaningful employment ... all implemented through local **Workforce Investment Act** programs generating real returns on workforce investments. See for yourself; engage your local Workforce System representatives; respond to their invitations, and witness first-hand these Workforce Investment successes.

Let us show you why it is important for you to be a direct contributor to a Real "Jobs" Bill – America's **Workforce Investment Act**. Thank you in advance for your support!