

Texas Workforce Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Labor Day Message from TWC Commissioners

AUSTIN – Labor Day provides an opportunity to salute our exceptional Texas workforce, now standing at 12 million strong. Texas workers form the foundation of the Texas economy, which continues to display resilience during this period of economic uncertainty.

The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) is committed to providing innovative workforce development strategies to support the Texas economy. This commitment is serving Texas well during this period of economic challenge. Through partnerships with economic development, business and education professionals across the state, TWC works to ensure that our workers are prepared to meet the skill demands of the Texas economy today and in years to come.

The Skills Development Fund, administered by TWC, assists employers by providing custom-designed training to workers to meet specific workforce needs. The Texas Legislature has appropriated more than \$90 million for these grants for the 2010-11 biennium, and Skills grant applications are accepted year round. Since the inception of the Skills Development Fund in 1996, successful partnerships have created 76,191 jobs and upgraded the skills of 208,630 workers.

Training for Texas workers also is available through the federally funded Workforce Investment Act and other programs administered by the 28 workforce development boards across the state. Employment services such as job-search assistance and support services are available at more than 240 Texas workforce centers. TWC oversees the Texas unemployment insurance program providing vital assistance to qualified out-of-work Texans.

On this Labor Day, as we face tenuous economic circumstances, we renew our commitment to you, the Texas worker, that TWC will continue to provide the many quality workforce programs that will ensure Texas' future economic success.

Tom Pauken
TWC Chairman

Ronald G. Congleton
TWC Commissioner Representing Labor

Andres Alcantar
TWC Commissioner Representing the Public

The Texas Workforce Commission is a state agency dedicated to helping Texas employers, workers and communities prosper economically. For details on TWC and the services it offers in unison with its network of local workforce development boards, call (512) 463-8556 or visit www.texasworkforce.org. ljj