

AB 1149 (ARAMBULA): WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARDS: FUNDING

POSITION: The Education and Workforce Committee will vote on a position at the June 21, 2017 meeting.

STATUS: AB 1149 was introduced by Assemblyman Joaquin Arambula on February 17, 2017. The Committee on Labor and Industrial Relations voted to pass and re-refer the bill to the Committee on Appropriations on June 14, 2017.

AT-A-GLANCE

AB 1149 would provide increased flexibility to current laws that require Local Workforce Development Boards to spend a minimum amount of their federal workforce formula funds on training services.

SUMMARY

AB 1149 widens the form of funding sources that would amount to achieving the required goal thereby encouraging the creation of local and regional partnerships that would improve the alignment of workforce training and employment programs. Additionally, the bill would permit part of the required expenditures to be used to make available supportive services (examples would be transportation vouchers and childcare) to help those needing additional aid in the completion of a workforce training program.

ANALYSIS

The author's office asserts that AB 1149 would modify the training requirement included in SB 734 (DeSaulnier, Chapter 498, Statutes of 2011), and UI Code Section 1421, namely the provision permitting local boards to be able to collect credit for the leveraging of certain funds for training. The bill would increase the list of the types of funds that can be leveraged, enabling broad based partnerships between Local Boards and other entities who provide funding for training.

Additionally, the bill would allow Local Boards to include expenditures for supportive services provided to those who are enrolled in training, streamlining the implementation of training for individuals from "hard to serve" populations. The enrollment, attendance, and completion of these training programs are often contingent on supportive services necessary to the target populations of WIOA. Examples of such services that the author's office suggests are transportation vouchers and childcare.

Moreover, the bill helps to put into effect California's WIOA State Plan, which specifically calls for improved regional and local alignment of programs through the creation of partnerships and cooperative funding of workforce programs. The State Plan also emphasizes the availability of services to populations with inherent difficulties in attaining employment.

SUPPORT

California Workforce Development Board (CWDB) (Sponsor)
California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO
California Workforce Association (CWA)
Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce
Phenix Technolo, Inc.

**Riverside County Workforce Development Board
San Bernardino County Workforce Development Board**

OPPOSITION

None