

# WORKFORCE INVESTMENT AND OPPORTUNITIES ACT

Conservation and Development Appropriations Subcommittee



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# LEGISLATIVE PURPOSE OF THE WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT OF 1998 (WIA)

“To consolidate, coordinate, and improve employment, training, literacy, and vocational rehabilitation programs in the United States, and for other purposes.”

- Replaced the Job Training and Partnership Act of 1982
- Continued federal involvement in workforce training and skills enhancement dating back to the Wagner Peyser Act of 1933

# LEGISLATIVE PURPOSE OF THE WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT OF 2014 (WIOA)

- ▶ Increase access and opportunities
- ▶ Align workforce investment, education, and economic development systems
- ▶ Provide workers with skills and credentials to secure employment
- ▶ Improve the structure and delivery of services
- ▶ Increase prosperity of workers and employers

“One Voice, One vision, one conversation.”

# VISION FOR THE WORKFORCE SYSTEM UNDER WIOA

- Recognition that the needs of businesses and workers drive effective workforce solutions **and** those solutions cut across demographic and social boundaries
- One-Stop *American Job Centers* are designed as collaborative spaces where jobseekers, workers, and employers receive timely customer service and the systems exists within a cycle of data-validated continuous improvement
- Workforce development boards, in partnership with workforce, economic development, education, and social service organizations, align education and training investments to regional civic and economic growth strategies; the workforce system must be ingrained in the ecosystem of the regional economy

# Functions of the Workforce Development Boards : Similarities

## WIA

- Local plan
- Select One-Stop Operators and other providers
- Budget and administration of program activities
- Program oversight
- Negotiate performance standards

## WIOA

- Local plan (**Regional Plan**)
- Select One-Stop Operators and other providers
- Budget and administration of program activities
- Program oversight
- Negotiate performance standards

# Additional Workforce Development Board functions under WIOA

- Employer engagement
- Convening, Brokering, and Leveraging workforce system stakeholders
- Incorporation of data, workforce research, and labor market information
- Career pathways development
- Coordination with multiple education providers

# WIOA Implementation Challenges

- Data-sharing limitations
- Limited federal guidance

