



LARRY HOGAN
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MARYLAND
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

October 29, 2015

The Honorable Kelly M. Schulz
Secretary, Department of Labor, Licensing & Regulation
500 North Calvert Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Dear Secretary Schulz:

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act requires each state to develop a four-year workforce development strategy for that state's workforce development system. With the assistance of the Governor's Workforce Investment Board, we must decide whether to submit a Unified or Combined state plan to the U.S. Secretary of Labor.

Based upon your recommendation and that of the Governor's Workforce Investment Board Interagency Committee, I have decided that the Board should pursue the Combined State Workforce Plan. Maryland's businesses and job seekers will be served best by this plan, which encourages cross-agency cooperation and efficient delivery of services to Maryland's workforce.

In addition to the six core Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act programs – Adult, Dislocated Worker, Youth, Adult Education and Family Literacy, Wagner-Peyser Act, and Vocational Rehabilitation, the following programs should be included in the state plan: Maryland Department of Human Resources' Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program, those offices and agencies administering the Second Chance Act of 2007, the Trade Adjustment Assistance Act, and the Jobs for Veterans State Grants programs.

The plan must leverage state resources in order to deliver outstanding customer service to workers and businesses that are vital to Maryland's economic growth. I encourage you to collaborate and innovate with your counterparts on both the state and local levels and I look forward to reviewing your proposed plan. Thank you for working hard to ensure that Maryland's citizens have access to quality workforce training and employment opportunities.

Sincerely,

Larry Hogan
Governor of Maryland

CC: The Honorable Sam Malhotra, Secretary, Dept. of Human Resources
Dr. Jack R. Smith, Interim State Superintendent, Maryland Department of Education
Ms. Sue Page, Assist. State Superintendent, Division of Rehabilitation Services
The Hon. Jim Rzepkowski, Asst. Secy, Department of Labor, Licensing & Regulation