



**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
& WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

**Alaska Workforce Investment Board  
Regional Input  
September 6, 2011  
DRAFT**

The Alaska Workforce Investment Board's (AWIB) purpose is to develop and implement an efficient, effective and integrated state human resource investment system. The comprehensive system will provide employment education and training programs, and services to insure that all Alaskans have the skills and opportunities necessary to earn a living wage. A skilled workforce will be critical in meeting future business needs of the state, and will encourage growth of business and industry. The Board advises the Governor of human investment needs and recommends ways to meet those needs, while maximizing federal funds and avoiding duplication of effort.

It is critical that AWIB attain input on workforce needs, employment education, and training programs from all regions of Alaska. AWIB has investigated different models on how to attain input from all regions. Regional Advisory Committees (RACs) were established in 2003 to provide a strong linkage to local employers, development projects and regional workforce issues. In some regions, the Alaska Regional Development Organizations (ARDORs) have functioned as an RAC providing input to the AWIB on local workforce development priorities. The AWIB currently receives input from a variety of sources including employers, local job centers, Regional Training Centers, University of Alaska campuses, economic development organizations, and training providers throughout the state. In addition, the AWIB membership has geographic representation from throughout Alaska from a variety of stakeholders.

The AWIB is prepared to work closely with the regional entities in support of a stronger overall system of workforce and economic development. Regional entities should define their priorities for workforce development and show how they are linked to employer demand, economic development, education or training strategies. The AWIB will be the linkage to the regional entities for workforce development priorities.

The AWIB has investigated different models of regional input to AWIB for the past two years to strengthen the input from all regions. The AWIB Executive Committee is recommending that each region determine how they will forward their development projects and workforce issues to the AWIB. Each region may choose to continue to use their current RAC, ARDOR structure, or other regional entity to provide input to the AWIB. The AWIB Executive Committee is requesting that all regional input be addressed to:

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