

## NEW JERSEY STATE EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING COMMISSION

### **POLICY RESOLUTION: SETC #2011-02**

**SUBJECT:** New Jersey's State Plan Extension and Waivers for Program Year 2011

***Purpose:***

The New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development and the State Employment and Training Commission are jointly recommending approval of a one-year extension of the current Workforce Investment Act and Wagner Peyser State Plan and Waivers through Program Year 2011 (July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012).

***Background:***

The Workforce Investment Act requires that States prepare a five-year Workforce Investment Act and Wagner-Peyser State Plan for carrying out the respective roles, responsibilities and programs required under WIA. New Jersey submitted a Strategic Five-Year Unified State Plan for New Jersey's Workforce Investment System in 2005. At the request of the U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL), a modification was prepared in 2009, to address the requirements under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). A one-year extension of New Jersey Unified State Plan was requested and approved in 2010.

On December 30, 2010, USDOL issued a Training and Employment Guidance Letter (TEGL), No. 17-10, which provides states with the option of 1) seeking an additional one-year extension of their State Plan and waivers or 2) modifying their existing plans. USDOL indicated in their TEGL that they intend to revise State Planning Guidance for PY 2012 and beyond and also expect that WIA will be reauthorized in the upcoming year.

All existing State Plans and waivers currently in place will expire on June 30, 2011. Therefore a request to extend the existing plans and/or modifying existing plans for Program Year 2011 must be submitted to the U.S. Department of Labor by April 15, 2011. However, please note that a request to modify a State Plan may be submitted at any time throughout the year.

The New Jersey Commission of Labor is preparing a draft letter requesting the following:

- 1) A one-year extension of the current WIA/Wagner-Peyser State Plan, through Program Year 2011. This exercises Option 1 of TEGL No. 17-10.
- 2) An extension of all existing WIA waivers (non-ARRA) for the same one-year period.
- 3) Consideration of an additional waiver which would provide local workforce areas the option of providing up to three of the required youth elements themselves. This is in

response to a request from local workforce investment areas who believe this will assist them in the provision of services to young people.

The State Employment and Training Commission is required to vote on the plan extension.

**Resolution:**

**It is hereby resolved that the State Employment and Training Commission formally approves the request to extend the State Unified Plan for Program Year 2011 along with the waiver requests as described above.**

**Approved: March 24, 2011**