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THE STATE SENATE
Monday, February 23, 2009

Committee Substitute for
Senate Bill No. 1172

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL NO. 1172 - By: Leftwich of the Senate and Morgan of the House.

[labor - the Oklahoma Recently Unemployed Worker Training Fund Act of 2009 - noncodification - codification - effective date]

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law not to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:

This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Oklahoma Recently Unemployed Worker Training Fund Act of 2009".

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law not to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:

The Oklahoma Legislature finds that a recently unemployed worker training fund is necessary for the economic well-being of workers and employers in Oklahoma. The Recently Unemployed Worker Training Fund created by this act will provide funds to pay for training that will update the skills of recently unemployed workers with the goals of reemployment of Oklahomans and increasing the economic strength of the state.

1 SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
2 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 3-109.4 of Title 40, unless
3 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

4 The Recently Unemployed Worker Training Fund Act of 2009 shall
5 be established as a pilot program as funds become available.

6 SECTION 4. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
7 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 6-301 of Title 40, unless there
8 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

9 A. There is hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving
10 fund for the Oklahoma Department of Commerce to be designated the
11 "Recently Unemployed Worker Training Fund". The Recently Unemployed
12 Worker Training Fund shall be separate and distinct from all other
13 funds and shall consist of:

14 1. All sums, from whatever source, received by the Oklahoma
15 Department of Commerce and paid into the Recently Unemployed Worker
16 Training Fund; and

17 2. Property and securities acquired by and through the use of
18 monies in the Recently Unemployed Worker Training Fund.

19 B. The Recently Unemployed Worker Training Fund shall be a
20 continuing fund, not subject to fiscal year limitations. All monies
21 accruing to the credit of the Recently Unemployed Worker Training
22 Fund are hereby appropriated and may be budgeted and expended for
23 the purposes set forth in Section 5 of this act. Expenditures from

1 the Recently Unemployed Worker Training Fund shall be made upon
2 warrants issued by the State Treasurer against claims filed, as
3 prescribed by law, with the Director of State Finance for approval
4 and payment.

5 SECTION 5. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
6 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 6-302 of Title 40, unless there
7 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

8 The monies in the Recently Unemployed Worker Training Fund shall
9 be used for the following purposes:

10 1. Grants to provide training to recently unemployed workers
11 that will increase the productivity, efficiency, or skill level of
12 the workers;

13 2. Payment to the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission for
14 the reasonable costs associated with collecting the assessment which
15 created the fund; and

16 3. Payment of the reasonable costs of administration of the
17 grant program for which this fund was created.

18 SECTION 6. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
19 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 6-303 of Title 40, unless there
20 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

21 A. For purposes of this section, "designated-training provider"
22 means any person, partnership, corporation, or limited liability
23 company, operating a business with employees whose primary work

1 station is located within the state of Oklahoma; or any private or
2 public educational institution located within this state.

3 B. For purposes of this section, "recently unemployed worker"
4 means an individual that meets the definition of unemployed as
5 defined in Section 1-217 of Title 40 of the Oklahoma Statutes, and
6 has met this definition since December 31, 2007.

7 C. The designated training provider shall use the grant funds
8 received from the Recently Unemployed Worker Training Fund only for
9 the payment of the cost of training and instruction for recently
10 unemployed workers. The designated training provider shall not use
11 any funds from the Recently Unemployed Worker Training Fund for
12 administration.

13 D. The Oklahoma Department of Commerce shall develop a grant
14 application form for designated training providers to use when
15 applying for grants from the Recently Unemployed Worker Training
16 Fund. At a minimum, the designated training provider must supply
17 the following:

- 18 1. Name;
- 19 2. Address;
- 20 3. Telephone number;
- 21 4. Tax number;
- 22 5. E-mail address;
- 23 6. Taxpayer identification number;

1 7. Names and titles of officers or owners, or in the case of a
2 public educational institution, the name of the superintendant,
3 principal, or president;

4 8. A description of the training the designated training
5 provider intends to provide to the recently unemployed workers;

6 9. The number of recently unemployed workers that can be
7 trained;

8 10. The number of training hours the recently unemployed
9 workers will receive;

10 11. Whether or not there will be a certification of skill level
11 at the end of the training;

12 12. A statement as to how this training will enhance the
13 productivity, the efficiency, or skill level of the recently
14 unemployed workers; and

15 13. The estimated cost of training.

16 E. Each designated training provider receiving a grant from the
17 Recently Unemployed Worker Training Fund shall match the grant
18 dollar for dollar from the funds of the designated training
19 provider. The match can be:

20 1. Payment of training costs by the designated training
21 provider;

22 2. Payment of the wages and expenses of instructors during
23 training;

1 3. Purchase of supplies and materials for use in the training
2 program;

3 4. Purchase of equipment or tools to be used in the training
4 program; or

5 5. Purchase of equipment or tools to be used by the recently
6 unemployed workers on the job after training is complete.

7 F. Training of the recently unemployed workers must begin
8 within six months of the date the grant to the designated training
9 provider is approved. Training must be completed within six months
10 of the date training begins. Grants will be paid to designated
11 training providers as a reimbursement of training expenses incurred.
12 Payment will be made based on invoices or billing statements from
13 the provider of the training up to the amount of the grant awarded.
14 Expenses for training occurring outside the time limits set out in
15 this subsection shall not be reimbursed.

16 G. Each designated training provider receiving a grant shall
17 make its records available to grant monitors for compliance reviews.

18 H. Applications for grants from the Recently Unemployed Worker
19 Training Fund shall be evaluated by the Oklahoma Department of
20 Commerce. Grants will be awarded based on the quality of the
21 application, the ability of the designated training provider to
22 complete the training process, the ability of the designated
23 training provider to produce the matching funds, the utility of the

1 training, and the overall impact the training will have on the local
2 and state economy.

3 SECTION 7. This act shall become effective November 1, 2009.

4 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, dated 2-18-09 - DO
5 PASS, As Amended and Coauthored.