

Texas Workforce Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Texas Back to Work Secures Jobs for 10,000 Texans

TWC program put out-of-work Texans back in workforce, cut hiring costs for employers

AUSTIN –*Texas Back to Work* has exceeded a goal by helping more than 10,000 individuals find employment, the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) announced today. Funded by the 81st Texas Legislature and supported by Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst, the initiative provided up to \$2,000 in wage subsidies to Texas employers per qualified new-hire employee. Qualified individuals included those who were receiving or had received Unemployment Insurance benefits within the last year.

“I’m pleased that this innovative program is helping so many Texans get back to work,” said Lt. Gov. Dewhurst. “*Texas Back to Work* is providing job opportunities, income and training for thousands of newly hired employees. It is also helping small businesses and saving Texas taxpayers money in the process.”

To date, 10,158 individuals have secured jobs with 2,721 employers who have received wage subsidies for hiring qualified out-of-work Texans.

“*Texas Back to Work* enables thousands of businesses to hire workers whom they might not have been able to employ otherwise during this difficult economic time,” said TWC Chairman Tom Pauken. “This TWC initiative succeeds by partnering employers with qualified workers.”

Employers can still sign up for *Texas Back to Work* by contacting their local workforce development board. Local contact information is available at <http://www.twc.state.tx.us/svcs/tback2work/tback2work.html>. TWC’s 28 local workforce development boards provide employers with workforce recruitment assistance, pre-screening of qualified applicants and training programs. More than 1.8 million customers were served in more than 245 workforce centers across Texas last year.

Employers also are encouraged to take advantage of WorkInTexas.com, TWC’s online job- matching website where more than 250,000 employers already are registered to post job openings and find great employees. Visit WorkInTexas at <http://www.twc.state.tx.us/jobs/job.html>

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The Texas Workforce Commission is a state agency dedicated to helping Texas employers, workers and communities prosper economically. For details on TWC and the services it offers in coordination with its network of local workforce development boards, call (512) 463-8556 or visit www.texasworkforce.org.