

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 14-09**

**RESOLUTION to use Workforce Investment Funds to create integrated policy that Mitigates Barriers to Employment impacting Employers and Job Seekers**

WHEREAS, the Alaska Workforce Investment Board (AWIB) is an industry-driven public organization comprised of representatives from business and industry, education, organized labor, and government; and

WHEREAS, the AWIB acts as the lead planning and coordinating entity for workforce development programs involving employment training; and

WHEREAS, the AWIB provides oversight of the workforce development systems in Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the AWIB advises the Governor, the Commissioner of the Department of Labor and Workforce Development (DOLWD) and the Alaska State Legislature;

WHEREAS, employers must conform to safety and risk standards required of them by local, state, and federal governments, insurance and bonding providers, and legal advisors, and

WHEREAS, Alaska employers report to the AWIB that they are increasingly unable to hire otherwise qualified individuals due to threshold barriers identified as, but not limited to the inability to pass drug and alcohol tests, an unacceptable driving record, an invalid or restricted driver's license, a criminal history that prohibits employment in certain occupations, and the inability to safely perform essential physical functions of the job without putting themselves or others at risk.

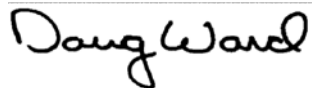
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the AWIB advises and recommends to the Governor and DOLWD Commissioner that the State of Alaska create a task force comprised of the departments of labor, education and health and employers to assess barriers to employment, increase youth and job seekers awareness of work readiness requirements and the consequences of barriers to employment, and develop and recommend policies and programs that reduce and mitigate employment barriers within the Alaska workforce.

Furthermore, AWIB requests regular progress updates on the resolution and that of the integrated team.

**CERTIFICATION**

The Alaska Workforce Investment Board held a meeting of the full board convened this 14<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2014, and the foregoing Resolution was adopted unanimously at said meeting.

Signed this 14<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2014



Doug Ward, Chair  
Alaska Workforce Investment Board