9 STATES SHARE \$6.3 MILLION FOR VETERANS EMPLOYMENT, TRAINING PROGRAMS

WASHINGTON -- Veterans in nine states will receive a variety of employment and training services, thanks to \$6.3 million in grants awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA), Secretary of Labor Elaine L. Chao announced. The department expects almost 2,500 veterans to be placed in unsubsidized employment as a result of these grants.

The one-year grants, authorized by Section 168 of the WIA, were awarded by the department's Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS) on a competitive basis. VETS received applications from 30 states.

"The Workforce Investment Act has expanded the eligibility criteria for veterans," said Frederico Juarbe Jr., assistant secretary of labor for veterans employment and training. "We can now offer services to any honorably discharged veteran that served on active duty during a war or received a campaign or expedition badge, in addition to those with service connected disabilities, have recently separated, or have other significant barriers to employment."

The grants make possible a range of services for veterans including: assessing their job skills, career counseling, current labor market information, classroom or on-the-job training, skills upgrading or retraining, and job placement assistance. The grants are administered by public agencies and nonprofit organizations that the Secretary of Labor determines have an understanding of veterans' unemployment problems.

State:

Maine Department of Labor, Bureau of Employment and Training Programs 55 State House Station Augusta, ME (207) 624-6390

Contact: Frank Southard

Amount:

\$770,000

State:

Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry 7th and Foster Sts.
Harrisburg, PA 17120
(717) 783-8361
Contact: Pill Lapham

Contact: Bill Lanham

Amount: \$617,600

State:

Commonwealth of Massachusetts 239 Causeway St. #100 Boston, MA 02114 (617) 727-3578 Contact: Erford Fowler

Amount:

\$850,000

State:

Texas Workforce Commission 101 E 15th St. Austin, TX 78778 (512) 305-9639 Contact: Mike Olen

Amount: \$850,000

State:

Alabama Department of Industrial and Labor Relations 649 Monroe St.
Montgomery, AL 36131
(334) 242-8303

Contact: Robert Langley

Amount: \$669,785

State:

Indiana Department of Workforce Development 10 N Senate Ave. Indianapolis, IN 46204 (317) 232-7595

Contact: John Corcoran

Amount: \$850,000

State:

Hawaii Department of Labor and Industrial Relations 830 Punchbowl St. #329 Honolulu, HI 96813 (808) 586-8812 Contact: Elaine Young

Amount: \$250,675

State:

Workforce Essentials, Inc. [Tennessee] 110 Main St. Clarksville, TN 37040 (931) 551-9110 Contact: Gina Lokey

Amount: \$639,311

State:

California Employment Development Department Box 826880 MIC 50 Sacramento, CA 94280 (916) 654-8275 Contact: Jim Curtis

Amount: \$850,000

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