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Policy Letter #30

TO: All Cumberland County Workforce Development Service Providers, Board, and Participants

FROM: Tracy Jackson, Interim Director

SUBJECT: Transparency and Integrity (HATCH ACT)

Purpose:

To communicate expectations about integrity and transparency in decisions made by state and local workforce investment boards and officials, and requirements regarding conflict of interest, as stated in the Training and Employment Guidance Letter (TEGL 35-10).

Background:

Providing responsible stewardship for and oversight of public funding for federally-funded workforce programs must be accomplished in a way that demonstrates strong integrity, accountability, and transparency in order to preserve the public trust. The responsibility for this stewardship and oversight is shared in the devolved public workforce system by federal, state and local entities.

Workforce programs are largely governed under the Workforce Innovative Opportunity Act (WIOA) by state and local workforce development boards (WDBs) which are composed of individuals from the business community, educational community, government agencies, organized labor, legislators, community service organizations, and others.

The WDBs are responsible for multiple functions, including procurement decisions. Local WDBs select One-Stop Career Center operators and youth service providers and develop a budget for carrying out the duties of the local WDB. These decisions often have significant implications for service providers and participants they serve, and thus must be made in a transparent and ethical manner. Members of state and local WDBs should be aware of the federal, state and local laws and regulations that guide their conduct while serving on the WDB.

The Hatch Act and its regulations, for individuals paid with federal funds (5 CFR 151). The Hatch Act restricts the political activity of individuals principally employed by state or

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