

American Workforce Policy Advisory Board September 18, 2019 Meeting Public Comments

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September 2019 Advisory Board Meeting Public Comment

From: [Brandon Stevens](#)
To: [Montes, Sabrina](#)
Subject: Scoutr Introduction - New Data to Help Americans Get Jobs
Date: Thursday, July 25, 2019 11:14:28 AM

Hi Sabrina,

I hope all is well with you! I wanted to introduce myself, and Scoutr, to you and your team. For years we've been researching the issues with job placement (time to hire, quality, etc) and have discovered new data to help thousands get work. Instead of resumes, Scoutr uses work history, references, work style preferences, and team culture dimensions to promote soft and hard skill data to decision makers. This has dramatically increased candidate visibility and reduced the time to interview/hire. We are using data from best hiring practices, organizational psychology, and workplace feedback to enhance this process. We'll be releasing Scoutr for Students in August, which will be the first 24 Point Soft Skill Assessment for graduating college students (or high school students). We released our core Scoutr product last March, and it has a 100% retention rate thus far, and has reduced the average time to hire to 23 days. I'd love to share this information with you and your team, and with others at the Federal and State level as well. Please let me know your thoughts.

Regards,
Brandon

Brandon Stevens
Founder / CEO
Scoutr
www.scoutr.team

From: [Heather Zane](#)
To: [Montes, Sabrina](#)
Subject: Suggestions for Next Workforce Development Meeting
Date: Wednesday, July 31, 2019 12:18:51 PM

Good Afternoon Ms. Montes,

It is wonderful to see so much progress in workforce development! I found your contact information from following an IndustryWeek article and followed it to the Federal Register website.

After looking into some of the members of the advisory board, I wondered why trainers and project-level workforce members aren't included. I value the contributions from leadership, but would also love to see a hiring manager or person who works in skilled trades represented.

I am a technical writer and instructional designer for Fiat Chrysler Automobiles (FCA) and know that when I need the best information, I can get a general overview from leadership, but I always go to the person with their hands on a project for the best information. I offer this as advice in making the most of the next meeting.

Another item to note is that each branch of the armed forces has their own workforce transition program that might be useful to call on. My husband, Joe Zane, is a Major in the USMCR and is the Michigan representative for Marine for Life, a military program that identifies skills overlap and gaps for veterans returning to civilian careers. Joe has political, automotive, IT, and military experience, so he could be a great resource for the group. His email address is [REDACTED].

Thank you so much for your work on this project and I look forward to hearing about more progress!

All the best,

Heather Zane
[REDACTED]

Technical Writer, FCA
Communications Representative, Junior League of Birmingham, MI
Board Member, Gateway Montessori House
Council Member, Military Family Readiness Council



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Sabrina Montes, c/o Office of Under
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RE: September 2019 Advisory Board
Meeting Public Comment

Dear Advisory Board:

As published in the Federal Register 43787, Vol. 84, No. 163, from Thursday, August 22, 2019, for Docket No. 190815-0014, please accept the following comments to the American Workforce Policy Advisory Board meeting.

This letter is in regard to important workforce policy considerations relating to employment of people with disabilities. Surely the American Workforce Policy Advisory Board would agree that the topic of employment for people with disabilities is an important topic to be included in your discussions.

As you may know, currently, **64% of working age people with disabilities in the United States are not employed**, which equates to ~13,300,091 Americans. Further, people with disabilities experience higher rates of unemployment, lower labor participation rates, lower employment-population ratios and higher rates of poverty.

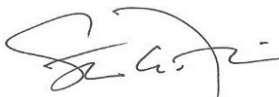
The comparisons between people with and without disabilities within the context of employment are compelling. The unemployment rate for people with disabilities is double that of people without disabilities. Both the labor force participation rate and the employment to population ratio show a negative gap of ~44% between people with disabilities and people without disabilities. More than one quarter (26%) of working age people with disabilities are at poverty level, which is more than double that of working age people without disabilities.

Please consider these points as the American Workforce Policy Advisory Board deliberates. Of course, I respectfully offer to give more information or answer any questions. Thank you for considering workforce policies that better integrate employment opportunities for people with disabilities.

Sincerely,


David D'Arcangelo, Commissioner
Massachusetts Commission for Blind


Toni Wolf, Commissioner
Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission


Steven Florio, Commissioner
Massachusetts Commission for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing