



**Legislative Committee**  
**November 11, 2015 Meeting Summary**  
*Draft Abbreviated Version*

**I. Welcome and Review of Agenda**

The Committee chair kicked off the meeting with a welcome and review of the agenda.

**II. Federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)**

- **One-Stop Procurement**

The WIOA regulations are expected to be released in January but could be delayed for several months. One of the most contentious issues with the regulations is how one-stop procurement will be addressed. In the bill language, it was unclear whether local workforce boards would be able to continue to directly operate their own one-stop centers and if they would be required to participate in a procurement process. It is believed that the intent of the new law is that no local workforce board will be able to operate a one-stop center. This position undermines the local elected officials' authority to determine what is the best approach for the local workforce development system for which they are liable and held accountable. It is also difficult to find local service providers interested in operating a WIOA one-stop system given its cumbersome requirements, so a competitive procurement process isn't expected to improve the system. The California Workforce Association has taken on this issue and is working with a lobbyist in Washington, D.C. and with the California delegation to shape impending regulations that allows for more flexibility and waivers and puts the decision for how best to address one-stop procurement in the hands of the Governors for their respective states. In California, local city and county governments administer most local workforce development systems.

Depending on the outcome of the new regulations around procurement, the Board will need to decide what is the best way to tackle procurement for NOVA's local one-stop system, whether NOVA should bid and when the procurement process should take place (e.g. July 2016 or 2017). Any procurement process will need to follow City of Sunnyvale procurement rules. The Board will receive updates on this at the December 2 Board meeting, with a more in-depth discussion expected to take place at the January 27 Board retreat.

**III. Regionalism**

- **Slingshot**
- **Regional Planning**

Slingshot: In October, a Slingshot design session was held involving representatives from the three neighboring workforce boards — San Francisco, NOVA and San Jose's work2future, the education community and employers. We are looking at the employer community taking the lead with this initiative and convening a roundtable to define a priority workforce issue and guide an implementation process to address this issue. A proposal was presented to have the Bay Area Council, Silicon Valley

Leadership Group and Joint Venture Silicon Valley jointly send an invitation letter to employers to invite them to participate in this roundtable discussion. Board member Michael Marlaire will be taking the lead and chairing a committee to spearhead this collaborative effort. It is NOVA's goal to bring Board members from each of the local workforce boards into the Slingshot initiative and the regional planning process.

Regional Planning: WIOA requires that the local workforce boards develop four-year local strategic plans and regional plans as part of their defined regions. The planning regions have already been designated by the State and NOVA is in a planning region with San Francisco and work2future. Recently, a proposal has surfaced to also include San Benito County in our region, which is of concern given the very different industries in San Benito County compared to the other three workforce areas. In the coming year, NOVA will be working on developing a plan for bringing our own communities together to provide input on a strategic plan that includes the entire eight-jurisdiction consortium and collaborating with our neighboring local workforce boards around a regional plan. The Bay Area Council Economic Institute recently released a report on a proposed regional strategy that supports economic growth and shared prosperity. At the next Legislative Committee meeting, the committee will discuss what would be the best approach for tackling the development of these strategic plans that involves broad-based input.

#### **IV. Workforce Mobility: Irregular/Contingent Workers**

- **Role of Board Retreat**

Workforce mobility fits into the NOVA Workforce Board's purpose statement, specifically, "support workforce mobility by easing workers' transition from opportunity to opportunity...." Several articles discussing different aspects of workforce mobility were distributed. This is an opportunity for the Board to weigh in on a policy/advocacy agenda that is expected to have a significant impact on the workforce. An approach could involve choosing just one aspect of the whole workforce mobility movement. For example, the Board could take a position in support of a regional minimum wage. The City of Mountain View recently adopted a minimum wage and the Santa Clara County Cities Association is having discussions about the minimum wage and is exploring conducting a study. Another idea would be to focus on workers who are working on contract to ensure they have benefits. Several local technology companies have taken the lead, locally, with their own contractors.

At the Board retreat, there should be a primer on the workforce mobility issue and what it means for the workforce so that the Board is better informed about this topic; regionalism should be part of the discussion. At the retreat, we could also host a luncheon speaker from a local technology company who worked on the contractors issue. The discussion and recommendations that come out of the retreat about workforce mobility will become a part of the Legislative Committee's work-plan over the course of the coming year.

#### **V. Year in Review: State and Federal Legislation and Proposals**

- **California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office Report**
- **Year-End Report of Priority Bills/Policies to Watch**

California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office Report: The California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office recently released a report from the Task Force on Workforce, Job Creation, and a Strong Economy with recommendations that will involve collaboration with the workforce development community. An Executive Summary was handed out to Committee members. California

Forward is distributing this report and asking organizations to weigh in on the report's action-steps. Committee members were encouraged to review the report and recommend any positions or actions it may wish to take in response.

Year-End Report on Priority Bills/Policies to Watch for 2015: A chart of the year-end results of bills and policies for 2015 was distributed. This past year, the focus has been on the implementation of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and the impending regulations. At the state level, several bills were introduced that targeted placing WIOA requirements into State statute: AB 1270 includes the technical provisions of WIOA and SB 45 has become a two-year bill and will include policy innovations for WIOA that the California Workforce Association (CWA) will be weighing in on. Two bills were signed by the Governor that CWA supported and sponsored: AB 509 provides local workforce boards flexibility to use training funds for registered apprenticeships and AB 1093 pertains to the Supervised Population Workforce Training Grants program. While the bills are beneficial to the local workforce development system, neither bill is expected to have an impact on NOVA.

## **VI. Wrap-up/Next Steps**

- At the January 27 Board Retreat, the Board is expected to discuss WIOA and one-stop procurement, regionalism and workforce mobility that will shape the Legislative Committee's work-plan in 2016.
- Staff will continue to monitor state and federal legislation in 2016. Staff will also be monitoring funding/federal appropriations.