

Texas Workforce Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA CONTACT: Ann Hatchitt

PHONE: (512) 463-8556

Texas Back to Work Reaches 5,000 New Hires

TWC program helps employers cut hiring costs, puts Texans back to work

AUSTIN –*Texas Back to Work* has surpassed a milestone by helping more than 5,000 individuals secure employment to date, the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) announced today. Funded by the Texas Legislature and supported by Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst, the initiative provides up to \$2,000 in wage subsidies to Texas employers per qualified new-hire employee. Qualified individuals include those who are currently receiving or have received Unemployment Insurance benefits within the last year.

“I’m pleased to see this innovative new program helping so many Texans get back to work,” said Lt. Gov. Dewhurst. “*Texas Back to Work* is not only providing job opportunities, income and training for thousands of newly hired employees; it’s also helping small businesses, growing our economy, and saving Texas taxpayers money in the process.”

To date, 5,184 individuals have secured jobs with 1,511 employers who have received wage subsidies for hiring qualified out-of-work Texans.

“*Texas Back to Work* is one tool in TWC’s arsenal to help qualified Texans re-enter the workforce,” said TWC Chairman Tom Pauken. “We would encourage other Texas employers to participate in the *Texas Back to Work* initiative.”

Employers can sign up for *Texas Back to Work* by contacting their local workforce development boards. Local contact information is available at <http://www.twc.state.tx.us/svcs/tback2work/tback2work.html>. TWC’s 28 local workforce development boards provide employers with workforce recruitment assistance, pre-screening of qualified applicants and training programs. More than 1.8 million customers were served in more than 240 workforce centers across Texas last year.

Employers also are encouraged to take advantage of WorkInTexas.com, TWC’s online job matching website where more than 250,000 employers already are registered to post job openings and find great employees. Visit WorkInTexas at www.workintexas.com.

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The Texas Workforce Commission is a state agency dedicated to helping Texas employers, workers and communities prosper economically. For details on TWC and the services it offers in coordination with its network of local workforce development boards, call (512) 463-8556 or visit www.texasworkforce.org.