

411 West First Street, Duluth, Minnesota 55802 218-730-5230 | www.duluthmn.gov | Emily Larson, Mayor

For more information contact Pakou Ly, Public Information Coordinator 218-730-5309

DATE: 4/7/2016 SUBJECT: Workforce Development Draft Plan aims to improve programs for job seekers and employers - Public comments on Plan accepted until May 9 BY: Pakou Ly, Communications Office

Workforce Development Draft Plan aims to improve programs for job seekers and employers

Public comments on Plan accepted until May 9

[Duluth, MN] - The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) was signed into law by President Obama on July 22, 2014. WIOA seeks to more fully integrate systems to better serve employers and job seekers. Under WIOA the Duluth Workforce Investment Board is responsible for submitting a Local Plan for the delivery of federal and state employment and training services to residents and businesses in the City of Duluth as well as a Regional Plan in collaboration with the Northeast Minnesota Workforce Development Board that addresses the regional needs of the region's workforce and business communities.

The initial draft of the Duluth Workforce Development Board Program Years 2016 &2017 Local and Regional Plans is now available for a thirty (30) day public review and comment period. The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Local Plan can be viewed in hard copy version at the Duluth Workforce Center, located at 402 West Superior Street in Duluth, MN or in a downloadable PDF format on the <u>Workforce webpage</u>. The Plan lays out some action steps that address stakeholder engagement, systems review, partnerships, and program design.

Anyone wishing to comment on the local plan must submit comments no later than May 9, 2016 either in writing (send to: WIOA Plan Comments, 402 West First Street, Duluth, MN 55802) or by using the online form located at http://www.duluthmn.gov/workforce-development/workforce-innovation-opportunity-act/

The comments and ideas received will be used to develop the final local program plan and submitted to the State of Minnesota. For more information or for questions on the public review and comment process please contact: Paula Reed, Manager of Duluth Workforce Development at preed@duluthmn.gov or (218) 730-5241.

###