



**LATIN CHAMBER  
OF COMMERCE NEVADA, INC.**  
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February 2021

Larry Fagerhaug  
Chairman  
Governor's Workforce Development Board

Dear Chairman Fagerhaug:

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The Latin Chamber of Commerce (LCC) has recently become aware of a policy that currently excludes micro-businesses from benefiting from resources of on-the-job-training (OJT). This restrictive policy effectively eliminates the very businesses in need of the OJT services most. Not allowing businesses that have less than 3 employees, implies that those smaller micro-businesses with less than 3 employees are not in need of this much needed training program. Nothing could be further from the truth. It is interesting to note that federal, county, state and city leaders are all asking what they can do to ensure that disadvantage businesses are being assisted and here we have a clearly useful program being denied to the very group that would undoubtedly find it most helpful.

Hispanic small businesses are central to our economic success and the smaller startup and challenged businesses that so willingly accommodate training opportunities are critical to growing into well-established strong businesses. These micro small businesses that may staff as little as 3-5 workers are the perfect opportunity to make these OJT programs a success.

On behalf of the LCC membership, its board and all our supporters, we urge you to remove any barriers and or restrictions that prevent micro-small businesses from receiving the resources they so desperately need to advance. Specifically, the percentage calculation currently in place that excludes micro-businesses from these valuable resources. We encourage you to give micro-businesses every chance to succeed including offering OJT programs.

We appreciate your time and attention to this matter and are available to discuss further if needed.

Sincerely,

Peter Guzman  
President and CEO  
Latin Chamber of Commerce Nevada



February 22, 2021

**President**  
Kenneth C. Evans

Larry Fagerhaug  
Chair, Governor's Workforce Development Board

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*NV Energy*

Ricardo Villalobos  
*College of Southern Nevada*

**President Emeritus**  
Hannah Brown

Dear Chairman Fagerhaug:

Creating jobs and connecting Nevada workers to employment opportunities is paramount to rebuilding our economy. Therefore, I am writing in support of the request by the two local workforce development boards to remove restrictions that prevent on-the-job training at some of our smallest businesses as well as any prescriptive percentages that further impede the responsive deployment of training and employment resources in our Southern Nevada region. The restrictions for on-the-job-training (OJT) funds usage for small businesses with less than 3 employees are not in line with Nevada's "business-friendly" economic development strategy.

At 11.5%, Las Vegas continues to have the highest unemployment rate among metropolitan areas, according to the latest report by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. This is not only an enormous impediment to economic growth, it also creates financial insecurity for thousands of Nevadans and their families.

Maximizing our ability to retrain and upskill workers by giving them on-the-job training is an essential strategy to lowering this high unemployment rate by giving Southern Nevadans a pathway to good paying jobs and sustainable careers. On-the-job training programs help workers gain invaluable work experience that leads to full-time employment and career growth.

Small businesses represent a very large segment of the business community and should not be left out because of the size of their staff. The federal law has no such restriction, and neither should Nevada. A significant amount of our Urban Chamber of Commerce (UCC) businesses have three (3) or less employees i.e. they are microbusinesses. At the same time, they are contributing to the small business employer base. Small businesses employ roughly half of the private sector workforce in the United States and have traditionally created the most net new jobs in the country. Additionally, small businesses offer opportunities in innovative and growing industries. For example, several of our Urban Chamber microbusinesses are members of our UCC IT Roundtable and actively engaged in commerce in the Information Technology and Cybersecurity sector.

Additionally, the prescriptive percentages for what percentage to spend on the removal of barriers to employment are not appropriate for our time of greatest need. We need all the flexibility allowed in the federal law to help workers get back to work. It is impossible to determine a fixed percentage that will be needed on any one strategy that removes barriers to employment: training, licenses, work cards, uniforms, childcare, transportation, etc.

For Nevada to stay competitive amongst our neighbor states, we need to maximize our ability to train and employ workers. The Urban Chamber supports these requests because they align with the need in Southern Nevada to help connect workers back to jobs and employers to a ready workforce.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter. Please let me know if there is additional insight or perspective that I can provide to support this request.

Respectfully,

Kenneth C. Evans  
President



Larry Fagerhaug  
Chair, Governor's Workforce Development Board

Dear Chairman Fagerhaug:

**Board of Directors**

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President

*Robert Young, Phd.*  
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Director

*James Yu, CPA*  
Director

*Raja Mourey*  
Director

Creating jobs and connecting Nevada workers to employment opportunities is essential to Nevada's economy. I am writing in support of the request by the two local workforce development boards to remove restrictions that prevent on-the-job training at small businesses as well as any prescriptive percentages that create barriers to training and employment. The restrictions for on-the-job-training for small businesses with less than three employees does not support Nevada's economic development strategy.

At 11.5%, Las Vegas continues to have the highest unemployment rate among metropolitan areas, according to the latest report by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. This is not only an enormous impediment to economic growth, it also creates financial insecurity for thousands of Nevadans and their families. Maximizing our ability to retrain and elevate workers skills by giving them on-the-job training is an essential strategy to lowering this high unemployment rate. It also gives Southern Nevadans a pathway to good paying jobs and sustainable careers. On-the-job training programs help workers gain invaluable work experience that leads to full-time employment and career growth.

Small businesses represent a very large segment of the business community and should not be left out because of the size of their staff. The federal law has no such restriction, and neither should Nevada. Small businesses employ roughly half of the private sector workforce in the United States and have traditionally created the most net new jobs in the country. Additionally, small businesses offer opportunities in innovative and growing industries. The prescriptive percentages for what percentage to spend on the removal of barriers to employment are not appropriate for our time of greatest need. We need the flexibility allowed in the federal law to help workers get back to work. It is impossible to determine a fixed percentage that will be needed on any one strategy that removes barriers to employment: training, licenses, work cards, uniforms, childcare, transportation, etc.

For Nevada to stay competitive we need to maximize our ability to train and employ workers. The Las Vegas Asian Chamber of Commerce supports these requests because they are in line with Southern Nevada's need to help our displaced workforce back to employment status and be ready for employment status.

Sincerely

  
Sonny Vinuya  
President and CEO  
Las Vegas Asian Chamber of Commerce



February 19, 2021

Larry Fagerhaug  
Chair, Governor's Workforce Development Board

Dear Chairman Fagerhaug:

Creating jobs and connecting Nevada workers to employment opportunities in rural areas is paramount to rebuilding our local economy. This is why I am writing in support of the request by the two local workforce development boards to remove restrictions that prevent on-the-job training at small businesses as well as any prescriptive percentages that create barriers to training and employment. The restrictions for on-the-job-training for small businesses with less than 3 employees are not in line with Nevada's "business-friendly" economic development strategy.

Maximizing our ability to retrain and upskill workers by giving them on-the-job training is an essential strategy to lowering our high unemployment rate by giving Southern Nevadans a pathway to good paying jobs and sustainable careers. On-the-job training programs help workers and students gain invaluable work experience that leads to full-time employment and career growth.

Small businesses represent a very large segment of the rural business community and should not be left out because of the size of their staff. The federal law has no such restriction, and neither should Nevada. Small businesses employ roughly half of the private sector workforce in the United States and have traditionally created the most net new jobs in the country. Additionally, small businesses offer opportunities in innovative and growing industries.

Additionally, the prescriptive percentages for what percentage to spend on the removal of barriers to employment are not appropriate for our time of greatest need. We need all the flexibility allowed in the federal law to help workers stay local and get back to work. It is impossible to determine a fixed percentage that will be needed on any one strategy that removes barriers to employment: training, licenses, work cards, uniforms, childcare, transportation, etc.

For rural Nevada to stay competitive amongst our neighboring states of Arizona and California, we need to maximize our ability to train and employ workers. The Laughlin Chamber supports these requests because they align with the need in Southern Nevada to help connect workers back to jobs and employers to a ready workforce.

Thank you for your consideration. Please let me know if there is anything additional, I can provide you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jacalyn Mazzeo". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jacalyn Rae Wallin Mazzeo  
President/CEO  
Laughlin Chamber of Commerce  
Laughlin Tourism Commission and Visitor's Center



**Mesquite**  
Chamber of Commerce

**Mark Whetzel**  
Chairman

**Tony Stipanov**  
Chair-Elect

**Claudia Carlsen**  
Secretary/  
Treasurer

**Carol Kolson**  
President & CEO

**February 24, 2021**

**Chair Larry Fagerhaug**  
**Governor's Workforce Development Board**

**Dear Chairman Fagerhaug,**

**Small businesses here in Nevada represent a large segment of our business community. I am writing this letter in support of the request by the two local workforce development boards to remove the restrictions for on-the-job training due to size of less than 3 employees.**

**We must utilize all means possible. We must also be flexible to get our economy back on track and put our workers back to work. Small businesses are a vital part of our economy and they should not be excluded from the on-the-job training programs.**

**In order for Nevada to stay competitive with other states surrounding us we must employ all possible methods to get folks back to work. Small businesses are the backbone of our country and the Mesquite Chamber of Commerce urges you to consider removing the restriction for small businesses with less than 3 employees.**

**Thank you for your time and consideration.**

**Sincerely,**

**Carol Kolson**  
**President/CEO**



January 6, 2021

Larry Fagerhaug  
Chair, Governor's Workforce Development Board

Dear Chairman Fagerhaug:

Creating jobs and connecting Nevada workers to employment opportunities is paramount to rebuilding our economy. This is why I am writing in support of the request by the two local workforce development boards to remove restrictions that prevent on-the-job training at small businesses as well as any prescriptive percentages that create barriers to training and employment. The restrictions for on-the-job-training for small businesses with less than 3 employees are not in line with Nevada's "business-friendly" economic development strategy.

At 11.5%, Las Vegas continues to have the highest unemployment rate among metropolitan areas, according to the latest report by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. This is not only an enormous impediment to economic growth, it also creates financial insecurity for thousands of Nevadans and their families.

Maximizing our ability to retrain and upskill workers by giving them on-the-job training is an essential strategy to lowering this high unemployment rate by giving Southern Nevadans a pathway to good paying jobs and sustainable careers. On-the-job training programs help workers gain invaluable work experience that leads to full-time employment and career growth.

Small businesses represent a very large segment of the business community and should not be left out because of the size of their staff. The federal law has no such restriction, and neither should Nevada. Small businesses employ roughly half of the private sector workforce in the United States and have traditionally created the most net new jobs in the country. Additionally, small businesses offer opportunities in innovative and growing industries.

Additionally, the prescriptive percentages for what percentage to spend on the removal of barriers to employment are not appropriate for our time of greatest need. We need all the flexibility allowed in the federal law to help workers get back to work. It is impossible to determine a fixed percentage that will be needed on any one strategy that removes barriers to employment: training, licenses, work cards, uniforms, childcare, transportation, etc.

For Nevada to stay competitive amongst our neighbor states we need maximize our ability to train and employ workers. The Vegas Chamber supports these requests because they align with the need in Southern Nevada to help connect workers back to jobs and employers to a ready workforce.

Thank you for your consideration. Please let me know if there is anything additional I can provide you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Beth Sewald". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mary Beth Sewald  
President and CEO

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Las Vegas, NV 89106  
702.641.5822 • VegasChamber.com