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WIOA Additional Board Funding Discussion Paper

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Background

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6 The integrated Texas workforce system has been in place and effectively managed for many
7 years, however, as demands have grown, additional resources would be beneficial in two key
8 areas. The security of the information maintained within the state and local networks is
9 increasingly tested by cyber activity. Additionally, in recent months, the demand on the public
10 workforce system has been significant, with Texas employers challenged to maintain a skilled
11 workforce in a changing economy, and with more Texans requiring support services and training
12 to learn new skills that will allow them to find meaningful employment in today's economy.
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14 First, cybersecurity has become a focus for all organizations, as cybercrimes continue to evolve
15 at a pace that requires consistent effort and resources toward developing and maintaining the
16 strongest data security available. The world has seen a steady rise in the frequency and
17 sophistication of cyberthreats and preparing and reinforcing infrastructure to respond to this is
18 the new reality that all organizations with IT infrastructure face. Texas' workforce system is no
19 different.
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21 In addition, as the economy continues to grow, many boards have seen an increased need for
22 client services as more Texans rejoin the workforce and require support to do so. Boards have
23 identified opportunities to provide additional classroom and online training, work-based learning
24 opportunities, and incumbent worker training, as well as support of individuals participating in
25 training.
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Issue

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29 Staff propose that \$2,700,000 in Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Statewide
30 funding be distributed to the boards based on a formula (as shown in the table below), with a
31 floor of \$50,000, to support immediate priorities. Boards will determine whether they can use the
32 funds to accelerate their current TWC funded and supported cybersecurity infrastructure or use
33 their distribution to meet their increased direct client service needs, or both.
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LWDA #	LWDA Name	Cyber Security Grant Amounts
1	Panhandle	\$ 63,961
2	South Plains	\$ 67,422
3	North Texas	\$ 60,879
4	North Central	\$ 156,063
5	Tarrant County	\$ 133,358
6	Dallas	\$ 165,422
7	North East	\$ 67,772
8	East Texas	\$ 88,859
9	West Central	\$ 65,481
10	Upper Rio Grande	\$ 90,491

11	Permian Basin	\$ 73,623
12	Concho Valley	\$ 57,566
13	Heart of Texas	\$ 67,925
14	Capital Area	\$ 100,040
15	Rural Capital	\$ 85,770
16	Brazos Valley	\$ 66,961
17	Deep East Texas	\$ 74,852
18	Southeast Texas	\$ 79,237
19	Golden Crescent	\$ 60,436
20	Alamo	\$ 152,848
21	South Texas	\$ 64,052
22	Coastal Bend	\$ 84,761
23	Lower Rio Grande	\$ 130,102
24	Cameron County	\$ 81,232
25	Texoma	\$ 58,755
26	Central Texas	\$ 71,834
27	Middle Rio Grande	\$ 63,093
28	Gulf Coast	\$ 367,205
	TOTAL:	\$ 2,700,000

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Decision Points

Staff recommends distributing \$2,700,000 of WIOA Statewide funding to the boards as shown above to support cybersecurity acceleration and/or client services delivery.