



# ***BWIB Memberandum***

**Week of November 24, 2008**

- **December BWIB Meeting Just Around the Corner**

MOED staff members are finalizing the details for the upcoming BWIB full Board meeting, scheduled for the morning of Wednesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>. Highlights of this meeting include: remarks by Mayor Sheila Dixon, and an opportunity to share information and public policy priorities with representatives of the Baltimore City Delegation to the Maryland General Assembly. In addition, Ms. Mary Gardner Clagett, Deputy Director for Policy with the National Center on Education and the Economy, will share her thoughts regarding the likely workforce priorities of the incoming Presidential Administration of Barack Obama.

Ms. Clagett previously served as the lead staff assistant to the Republican members of the U.S. House of Representatives' Committee on Education and the Workforce. In that capacity she played a major role in the creation of the nation's workforce development laws, including the Workforce Investment Act, the National School-to-Work Opportunities Act and the National Skills Standards Act. Thus, her presentation will provide an excellent perspective on the future course of federal involvement in workforce development activities. We look forward to seeing you at what is sure to be a highly informative meeting.

- **President-elect Urges Passage of \$700 Billion Stimulus Plan**

Democratic leaders in Congress, along with President-elect Obama, are calling for the passage of a massive economic stimulus package, which could total as much as \$700 billion over the next two years. A measure such as this would be a key component in the work associated with Obama's pledge to preserve or create 2 ½ million jobs by the year 2011. Over the weekend, the president-elect announced that he had instructed his advisers to assemble a massive jobs program that also would make a "down payment" on much of his domestic agenda.

The plan would include new funding for public-works projects to repair the nation's crumbling infrastructure, as well as a fresh infusion of cash to promote green technology and alternative-energy sources. It also would include targeted tax cuts for working

families, students, the elderly and job-creating businesses that Obama touted on the campaign trail. Any stimulus package of the scale currently contemplated would represent the largest public-sector spending program since President Franklin Roosevelt's New deal.

- **GWIB to Release Maryland Workforce Indicators Report**

Later this week, the Governor's Workforce Investment Board (GWIB) will be releasing a new report entitled "Maryland's Workforce Indicators: 2008." This document offers readers an overview of current conditions and notable trends affecting Maryland's workforce and economy. In this inaugural report, the GWIB has compiled a broad sampling of relevant labor market information, education, and economic data, which has historically been collected and disseminated by different state and federal agencies. By gathering this information into a single annual report, the GWIB hopes to present an overall profile that identifies noteworthy trends and provides a measurable representation of the health of Maryland's workforce now and into the future. The complete report will be available on the GWIB's website shortly.

- **Dates of Interest**

Thursday, Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> (8:00 am) – BWIB Training & Postsecondary Education Committee Meeting

**Wednesday, Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> (7:30 am) – BWIB Full Board Meeting at City Hall**

Thursday, Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> (7:45 am) – BWIB Youth Council Meeting

Tuesday, Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> (12:30 pm) – BWIB Public Policy Committee Meeting

Tuesday, Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> (10:00 am) – BWIB Mature Worker Task Force Meeting

*\*\*\*If you would like additional information regarding any of the issues or events discussed throughout this publication, please feel free to contact Jeff Smith.\*\*\**