

N E W S R E L E A S E

News Release

No.: 14-40

Date: September 24, 2014

Brown Administration announces \$487,000 state grant to assist workers and businesses affected by the Napa earthquake

SACRAMENTO – California Labor and Workforce Development Secretary David Lanier today announced a \$487,250 state grant to the Napa-Lake Workforce Investment Board (WIB) to assist laid off workers and businesses impacted by last month's Napa earthquake. Numerous workers and employers in the Napa area were affected by the 6.1 quake that hit the region on August 24.

"This grant reflects the Brown administration's continued support for Napa's recovery, which began with the governor's proclamation of a state of emergency in the morning hours immediately after the quake," Secretary Lanier said.

"These grant funds will help speed the recovery process for the Napa area's economy," added Patrick W. Henning Jr., director of the California Employment Development Department (EDD).

The Napa-Lake WIB has assisted employees who have lost their jobs as result of the quake and will continue outreach and assessment of the needs of businesses affected by the quake, as well as the needs of the region's overall economy.

"This grant will allow us to provide a range of services to affected businesses and job seekers that we otherwise couldn't provide," said Bruce Wilson, director of the Napa-Lake WIB. Wilson noted that the services would include working with impacted businesses in identifying assistance options and averting layoffs.

The multi-faceted services funded by this grant will be administered in collaboration with a number of core partners, including the Napa and American Canyon Chambers of Commerce; the cities of Napa and American Canyon Economic Development Departments; the County of Napa Economic Assistance Branch; the Napa Downtown Business Association and Vintners Association; and other local agencies.

Funding for the program is drawn from the Governor's 25 percent portion of Dislocated Worker Funds from Title I of the Federal Workforce Investment Act and is under the administrative authority of the EDD.

For more information about this project, please contact Bruce Wilson, Director of the Napa-Lake WIB, at (707) 259-8679.

###