



BOSTON CITY COUNCIL

Committee on Labor, Workforce, and Economic Development
Benjamin J. Weber, Chair

One City Hall Square 5th Floor, Boston, MA 02201 ♦ Phone: (617) 635-3040 ♦ city.council@boston.gov

REPORT OF COMMITTEE CHAIR

January 14, 2025

Dear Councilors,

The Committee on Labor, Workforce, and Economic Development was referred the following docket for consideration:

Docket #0116, Message and order authorizing the City of Boston to accept and expend the amount of Eight Hundred Sixty Thousand One Hundred Sixty-Nine Dollars and Seventy Cents (\$860,169.70) in the form of a grant for the One Stop Career Center grant, awarded by MassHire Department of Career Services to be administered by the Office of Workforce Development. The grant will fund comprehensive career services and resources to unemployed job seekers such as reviewing job postings, career counseling and job coaching, education/skills training, and job placement assistance.

This matter was sponsored by Mayor Michelle Wu and referred to the Committee on January 8, 2025.

Summary of Legislation

Docket #0116 is a grant that will provide funding for comprehensive career services and resources to unemployed job seekers such as reviewing job postings, career counseling and job coaching, education/skills training, and job placement assistance.

Information Received at Hearing

On Tuesday, January 14, 2025, the Committee held a virtual hearing to discuss Docket #0116. Testimony was provided by the Administration, including Joseph Le, Chief of Staff for the Office of Workforce Development, Katy Gall, Deputy Director and Director of Grants, and Neil Sullivan, Executive Director, MassHire Boston Workforce Board/ Boston Private Industry Council. The Administration officials presented a detailed overview of how the grant funds will be utilized for education and skill development, job placement, and career counseling services. The panel shared projected services for FY2025 from the MassHire Boston Career Center in Roxbury and the Downtown Boston Career Center. The offices are expected to serve 14,000 job seekers, with 12,470 successfully placed into jobs. This includes 950 individuals with disabilities, 8,500 UI claimants, and 265 veterans.

The panel shared that in FY2024, the career centers served 15,076 job seekers, with 13,675 placed into jobs. This included 1,009 individuals with disabilities, 9,043 UI claimants, and 269 veterans.

The Department of Career Services (DCS) provides funding from various sources, which are combined to form the budget for each career center and are allocated based on a formula. It was explained that the Career Centers are funded via federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Dollars. The Career Center One Stop grant is from a state line item designated to supplement federal WIOA Funding.



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Committee Chair Recommended Action

As Chair of the Committee on Labor, Workforce, and Economic Development I recommend moving the listed docket from the Committee to the full Council for discussion and formal action. At this time, my recommendation to the full Council will be that this matter **OUGHT TO PASS**.

Benjamin J. Weber, Chair
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