Policies to Reduce High-Tenured Dislocated Workers' Earnings Losses through Retraining

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The Problem

1 to 3 million high-tenure workers lose jobs each year. Large losses persist long after reemployment.



The key to reducing losses by at least half

Complete two years of high-return training.



1) Establish a Dislocated Worker Training (DWT) Grant

- Provide up to \$5.5K every 6 months <u>depending on size of</u> <u>the earnings loss</u> as long as the worker:
 - Had 3 or more years of tenure at job loss.
 - Is employed.
 - Is in training.
 - Receives career counseling from an honest-broker.
- Cover out-of-pocket expenses including childcare up to a maximum of \$36K over 4 years.

2) Use honest-brokers at One-Stop Career Centers to:

- Identify high-return fields.
- Insure academic and skill qualifications are met.
- Select the best training providers.
- Overcome academic and personal problems that routinely develop while in training.

3) Evaluate retraining programs and disseminate best practices.

Build on existing data systems to <u>estimate the return-on-investment</u> by characteristic of the trainee, program, service provider & labor market.

Use these estimates to:

- Make sound choices.
- Rate service-providers.
- Reward high-performing One-Stops.

4) Increase capacity to provide high-quality training

Provide competitive grants to promote innovation.

Match funding to returns.

- Many high-return programs are expensive.

Provide funds to maintain quality during recessions.

Conclusion: The whole is more than the sum of its parts

Effective training can offset losses.

Each of the "4 Keys" is essential—without ANY ONE this plan could fail.

- 1. Making long-term training affordable.
- 2. Using honest-brokers.
- **3.** Creating the information needed to inform choices, maintain high standards, and identify best practices.
- 4. Shoring up training-provider capacity.