Heidi Drygas Commissioner

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Press Release

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Department of Labor Consolidates Divisions

Consolidation will reduce costs and improve services

ANCHORAGE: The Department of Labor and Workforce Development (DOLWD) is consolidating two divisions in order to reduce costs and improve services. Following Governor Walker's issuance of <u>A.O. 275</u>, Labor Commissioner Heidi Drygas is moving forward with consolidation.

"We are reducing administrative overhead and enhancing investments in workforce development and training," said Commissioner Drygas.

A.O. 275 consolidates the Division of Business Partnerships and the Employment Security Division into the Division of Employment and Training Services. The consolidation eliminates duplicative administrative functions, saving an estimated \$600,000 annually.

The Employment and Training Services Division includes front line staff at Job Centers who connect job seekers with employment. Employment and Training Services staff also connect Alaskans with training opportunities. The division manages workforce investment grants, and aims to expand the percentage of funding being invested as grants while reducing the percentage of funding spent on administration.

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