Farm Work Group Notes

Date: November 13, 2014
Time: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Location: Highline Community College, Bldg. 2, Des Moines, WA 98198

Appointed Members Present: Jon Wyss, Mike Youngquist, Scott Dilley, Teresa Mosqueda, Nina Martínez, Andrea Schmitt, Kirk Mayer, Filemon Pineda, and Rosalinda Guillen.

Agency Ex-Officio Members Present: Lisa Heaton (L&I), Uriel Itiiguez (CHA), Ignacio Marquez (WSDA), Alberto Isiordia (ESD), Kathy Schmitt (DOH), Victoria Breckwich-Vazquez (PNASH)

Audience (signed in): Joanne Prado (DOH), Maggie Leland, L&I; Orlando Cano (WA-H-DC), Suchi Sharma (WA H-DC), Trudes Tango (H-OPR), Lindsey Shafar (H-RC), Mac Nicholson (S-C&LC), Elizabeth (Liz) Smith (L&I); Michael Yost (UW).

Administrative update

Cathy Hoover reviewed the budget for the work group. Of the $50,000 available, she reported about $20,000 remaining.

The agency ex-officio members have started working on the final report due in December. This report will be late, as the draft was due for review this week, and the work group could not meet until today. Commerce and Legislative staff have expressed interest in the report upon completion.

Cathy thanked the agencies for their work. She asked everyone to treat this meeting as the last funded meeting, as the proviso expires, and it is up to the legislature to determine if meetings will continue into 2015. The agencies will continue working on these issues.

Administrative solutions

Cathy told members that some of the solutions populated in the draft solutions matrix presented were modified given combined input. She asked members to let her know if they disagreed with any changes before they proceeded with the agenda.

Labor advocates and industry advocates agreed to caucus twice during the day to decide priorities. The translated version of the matrix was provided near the end of the caucus period.

Once both groups reconvened, Cathy read administrative solutions aloud, and agencies provided a response with next steps (if provided). The matrix was reviewed line by line. Text was added; out of scope or lower priority text was stricken, and both groups provided their vote rating each item (1-3).

Going forward

The Governor’s Office and the Legislature may opt to extend the duration of this effort to the end of the biennium. If this happens, understanding the extension is not up to you or to us, please consider if this would be a worthwhile investment of your time, if you are able and available.