

Hosts Assistant Secretary Of Labor Jane Oates for A Public Forum on the Program That Matches Available Manufacturing Jobs with Job Seekers

HARTFORD – **Congressman John B. Larson (CT-01)** welcomed **Assistant U.S. Secretary of Labor for Employment and Training, Jane Oates**, to Hartford this afternoon to participate in a public forum on the recently-launched Connecticut Manufacturing Job Match Initiative.

The Connecticut Manufacturing Job Match Initiative was launched last November as an effort by Congressman Larson in conjunction with the **Connecticut Department of Labor, the Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology (CCAT), Capital Workforce Partners** and the **Connecticut Board of Regents for Higher Education** to match unemployed manufacturing professionals with local businesses who are hiring.

“A strong and thriving manufacturing sector is critical to our economy. Study after study has shown that there are job openings in Connecticut’s manufacturing sector and it is our hope to help match professionals with those openings. Already, in such a short period of time, the Job Match has produced results,” **Congressman Larson** said. “I’m glad to have Assistant Secretary Oates here today to see how this program works. I think it would make a perfect model for the Department of Labor to use around the country to get America working again.”

Despite the short period of time since the program’s launch, 13 individuals have already been hired by nine local manufacturers, while dozens of others have been identified as ready to be placed or in need of additional training.

“Connecticut’s Manufacturing sector has always been a major contributor to job openings in our state,” said Connecticut **Department of Labor Commissioner, Glenn Marshall**. “With 22,000 openings last year and positions remaining unfilled, it was time to do something radically different to connect candidates with the right skills to employers who are searching for them. Having had our first successful job matching event, we are hoping to take this success and bring this program to scale for other types of manufacturing jobs. We believe this initiative will prove to be an example for the rest of the country to follow and applaud Congressman Larson for reaching out and partnering with us to meet employers needs and get people back to work in

good paying jobs.”

“The Connecticut Manufacturing Job Match Initiative is a model that has demonstrated the ability to match qualified jobseekers with the workforce needs of local manufacturers,” said **Elliott A. Ginsberg, President & CEO of CCAT**

. “By assessing the specific manufacturing capabilities of potential candidates and connecting them to manufacturers with available job openings through a ‘speed interview’ process, we have facilitated successful job matches, a win-win for jobseekers and employers”.

Registration for the job match ran from November through December of 2011. During that time 368 job seekers and 59 businesses registered for the program. Of those 368 job seekers that signed up, 97 were identified as “Track 1” candidates (those with training and experienced that are ready to be matched), 233 were identified as “Track 2” candidates (those with limited training and experience) and 55 were identified as “Track 3” candidates (those with no prior training or experience).

Since the beginning of 2012 approximately three dozen “Track 1” job seekers and 40 businesses attended two different job match events.

Interested job-seekers and businesses can learn more about how to participate in upcoming matches by contacting Congressman Larson’s office at **(860) 278-8888**.

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