

February 20, 1986

8-1586 deadline in memo to SDs

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training Washington, D.C. 20213 Symbols: TDT:MRM	<u>Distribution:</u> A-547 RD+SD+ SAC; Lab. Com.	<u>SUBJECT:</u> <u>CODE:</u> 700.1 Establishment of Apprenticeship Steering Committees in Non-SAC States <u>ACTION:</u> Due Date: 9-1-86
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PURPOSE: To develop and implement a formal steering committee to provide for enhanced linkages and cooperative actions among BAT staff, State governmental agencies and management and labor groups for expansion of the apprenticeship system of training.

BACKGROUND: The National Apprenticeship Act provides, in part, that "The Secretary of Labor is authorized and directed to cooperate with State agencies engaged in the formulation and promotion of standards of apprenticeship." The Fiscal Year 1985 Appropriations Bill passed by the House stated, in part, "The Committee directs the Department to continue its present level of support for those States currently operating apprenticeship programs and to encourage States without apprenticeship agencies to look for ways to provide quality and standardized training."

Volume 2 of the report prepared by the Apprenticeship Project, Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs, University of Texas entitled, "Coordination of State and Federal Apprenticeship Administration" contains recommendations emphasizing the need to strengthen the effectiveness of the role of the State in apprenticeship and to improve BAT/SAC coordination. A specific recommendation in the report is that, in non-SAC States where conditions are not conducive to establishing a SAC, the BAT State Director, in cooperation with State labor, management, and education officials, should establish a steering committee composed of representatives of the State's labor and management communities, with educational representatives serving on the committee as public members.. The steering committee, in its advisory role, would provide the BAT State Director with a local perspective on apprenticeship issues and problems.

The Federal-State Relations Subcommittee of the Federal Committee on Apprenticeship (FCA) also addressed this issue. The report of that Subcommittee states, in part, "Where conditions are not conducive to the establishment of a SAC, it is recommended that the BAT State Director, in cooperation with the State Department of Labor and education officials establish a steering committee made up primarily of representatives of the State, labor, and management communities, with educational representation serving the committee as public members."

There are many pluses for having a State-wide steering advisory committee. The changes in the work force, the movement of industry, the impact of technology, and other factors, coupled with a reduction in BAT staff mandates that the BAT State Directors avail themselves of possible assistance and advice from the entire apprenticeship community.

ACTION: The BAT Regional and State Directors should initiate efforts to establish an apprenticeship steering/advisory committee in each non-SAC State. In those SAC States which have little or no State staff assigned to carry out apprenticeship activities, consideration, likewise, should be given to soliciting the support, advice and assistance of the apprenticeship community to enhance the effectiveness and quality of the apprenticeship system of training.

The establishment of a committee in such SAC States, of course, will vary from State to State depending upon the current make-up and responsibilities of the SAC.

The steering/advisory committee in the non-SAC States should consist of the following membership: BAT State Director, labor representatives, management representatives, State Employment Security Agency Representative, Department of Education representative, State Vocational Education representative, State Department of Labor (Commissioner or Representative). The Chairperson of the committee should be from the private sector.

The BAT Regional Directors are expected to closely coordinate and monitor these efforts and to submit a report on the plans, activities, and progress achieved in each State, as appropriate, in their region by September 1, 1986.