

**For Consideration of Executive Committee
Arkansas Workforce Investment Board
March 12, 2002**

ACTION ITEM 2: Uniform Definition of Minority

ACTION RECOMMENDED: It is recommended that the Executive Committee, Arkansas Workforce Investment Board, for the purpose of Local Workforce Investment Board Membership, adopt the following definition of “minority”.

INFORMATION/RATIONALE: Arkansas Act 1125 of 1999 and the Arkansas State Unified Plan requires the Chief Elected Official(s) in each local workforce investment area to ensure that minority groups are represented on the local board. The Arkansas Workforce Investment Board staff has discovered that there are inconsistencies in the definition of minority as determined by local workforce investment boards and it would be advantageous to have a consistent definition of minority.

The Minorities in Arkansas Act of 2001, Arkansas Act 1394 of 2001, established a uniform definition of minority in the State of Arkansas. For terms of the Arkansas law, “Minority” means Black American, Hispanic American, American Indian, Asian, and Pacific Islander.

For the purpose of Local Workforce Investment Board membership, the term “Minority” shall be defined as:

“Any person who considers himself or herself as a Black American, Hispanic American, American Indian, Asian, or Pacific Islander.”

*****NOTE: Local Boards are also required to ensure that other categories in addition to minorities are represented as board members. These additional categories include:**

- 1. Business and Industry**
- 2. Organized Labor**
- 3. Economic Development Agency**
- 4. Disability**
- 5. Veteran**
- 6. One-Stop Partner**
- 7. Education Entity**
- 8. Community Based Organization**
- 9. School Superintendent**
- 10. Other**