



October 13, 2026

Board of Supervisors
Kern County Administrative Center
1115 Truxtun Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93301

**REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF ALTERNATIVE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS PROCESS
FOR PROCUREMENT OF SERVICES UNDER THE WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND
OPPORTUNITY ACT AND OTHER WORKFORCE-RELATED PROGRAMS AND SERVICES
FOR PROGRAM YEAR 2027-2028
(Fiscal Impact: None)**

Previously, your Board has granted Employers' Training Resource (ETR) exemptions from using Kern County's Request for Proposals (RFP) process for procuring Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and other workforce-related employment and training programs and services. This letter requests your Board's approval for a one-year exemption from Kern County's RFP process for Program Year 2027-2028 (July 1, 2027 through June 30, 2028).

In essence, ETR is requesting your Board's approval to develop and administer specific RFPs, as needed, for programs and services authorized under the federal WIOA and other non-WIOA workforce-related programs. The reasons for this request for the exemption from the County's process are the following: 1) As the Local Workforce Development Area designated under WIOA, procurements may include Inyo and Mono counties as well as Kern; 2) We are mandated to follow State of California Employment Development Department and U.S. Department of Labor guidelines; 3) We are also governed by the Local Workforce Development Board that approves issuance of RFPs and funding recommendations; and (4) ETR has successfully developed and administered federally funded grant-specific RFPs for over forty years.

County Counsel has reviewed and concurs with this request.

Therefore, IT IS RECOMMENDED that your Board approve the use of an alternative RFP process for the procurement of services under the WIOA and other workforce-related RFPs for Program Year 2027-2028, in lieu of the standard RFP procedures in Chapter 5 of the Kern County Administrative Policy and Procedures Manual.

Sincerely,



Brandon J. Evans

Chief Workforce Development Officer

cc: County Administrative Officer
County Counsel