



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Workforce Investment Board to Receive Funds to Assist Laid Off Workers**

(Fairfield) - The Workforce Investment Board (WIB) of Solano County has been awarded \$466,447 to serve workers who have been laid-off from O'Reilly Auto Parts (formerly Kragen/CSK) in Dixon this past November and December.

The grant was awarded to the WIB to provide needed core job services to the laid-off workers, such as skill assessments, case management and job development services, retraining, and assistance in job searches. The goal is to transition job seekers into high-wage, high-skill occupations in health care, clean or green energy-related industries, truck driving, and general office employment.

The WIB will also foster a partnership with O'Reilly Auto Parts and the local One Stop Career Centers. Local publicly-funded community college, adult schools and local union apprenticeship programs will serve as a referral source for education and training.

"This grant will enable the WIB to assist workers who were hit hard by the closure of the local O'Reilly Auto Parts warehouse," said Robert Bloom, Executive Director of the Workforce Investment Board. "WIB will work diligently to transition these workers into skills-upgrade training or into a better paying job through our On-the-Job Training program. WIB is very enthusiastic about this opportunity to serve the hardworking people of Solano County."

Funding for the program is drawn from the Governor's 25 percent portion of Dislocated Worker Funds from Title I of the federal Workforce Investment Act and is under the administrative authority of the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency's EDD.

Former employees of the O'Reilly Auto Parts warehouse who were laid off in 2010 should call the Workforce Investment Board's O'Reilly Auto Parts worker hotline at (707) 863-3556 (English) or (707) 863-3510 (Spanish) for more information.

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