



February 5, 2020

To Whom it May Concern:

The Governor's Initiative program "Jobs and Hope WV" would like to indicate their support to creating a used car donor tax credit program to incentivize donation of reliable and affordable vehicles for discounted sale to low-income working men and women to expand access to employment opportunities. Substance Use Disorder is a statewide epidemic and addressing it is a state priority. We are committed to doing everything we can to fix our state's drug crisis by supporting individuals in need of treatment and recovery services. Jobs & Hope WV is a state-funded beginning-to-end program that allows an individual to receive free career technical education and training to obtain meaningful employment. At the completion of the program, participants receive their certifications and will have the immediate opportunity to expunge non-violent criminal offenses that can be such a huge burden to finding a job. Workforce West Virginia and Division of Rehabilitation Services will collaborate to assist participants with job identification and placement.

The Jobs & Hope WV Transition Agents engage and connect the population(s) of focus to enrollment resources for Medicaid and other benefits programs (e.g., SSI/SSDI, TANF, SNAP, etc). The goal of the Jobs & Hope WV Program is for participants to enter the workforce. Participants receive ongoing support from the transition agent and/or the WV Department of Health and Human Resources to ensure success. Additional information about the program can be found at <https://jobsandhope.wv.gov/>

We are committed to providing resources and assistance through Jobs & Hope WV to collaborate and enhance availability of resources to our participants. We are pleased to support this bill along with the Good News Mountaineer Garage in hopes to make purchasing a vehicle more affordable to our participants who indicate transportation as a barrier to employment.

In support,  
  
*Deb Harris*

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