

a **CLOSER** **LOOK** at the *2015-17 State Budget*



DWD

- Increases funding for the Fast Forward program by \$6 million over the biennium
- Provides that at least \$3 million annually of Fast Forward grants shall be used for school districts for Career and Technical Education Incentive Grants Program
- Transfers funding to administer independent living services from DWD to DHS
- Creates the Re-Entry and Assessment Initiative
 - Require DWD to work with DOC on an assessment initiative to help DOC staff assess educational and vocational needs and skills of individuals who are incarcerated
 - Specify Local Workforce Development Boards outline the board's strategic plan for preparing an educated and skilled workforce
 - Require WDBs to outline how they will work with local and statewide reentry initiatives through DOC
 - Require that the DWD Secretary ensures a DOC representative serves on a committee of the state workforce board
 - Provide reentry programs and strategies be integrated into Job Center referral procedures
- Maintains Worker's Comp. administrative functions at DWD rather than transferring to OCI
- Transfers Worker's Comp. adjudicatory functions from DWD to DOA's Division of Hearings and Appeals
- Increases Penalties for Unemployment Insurance Fraud
 - Increase surcharge to 40% - 15% surcharge would be deposited into the state's UI trust fund and 25% surcharge would be deposited to the state's program integrity fund
- Amends suitable work definition – directs DWD to conduct a six-week canvassing period to more clearly define the tiered levels of suitable work to be established by DWD

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- Transfers administrative attachment for the Labor and Industry Review Commission from DWD to DOA
- Allows employees to voluntarily waive the requirement that they get at least one day off in seven
- Statutorily sets most minimum wage levels currently set in DWD rule
- Repeals statutory references to “living wage” and replaces them with “minimum wage”