

Chairman Tom Pauken

Statement

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Statement from Tom Pauken

On the Conclusion of His Tenure as Chairman of the Texas Workforce Commission

Governor Perry asked me to chair the Texas Workforce Commission in 2008 and I am proud of the successful initiatives we have put in place over the last four years. We established the Texas Veterans Leadership Program (TVLP) to help our returning veterans make a successful transition to civilian life. TVLP leaders – who are returning veterans themselves – have helped more than 8,000 of their fellow veterans find jobs and gain access to services. Our Texas Back to Work program has taken more than 25,000 Texans, who have lost their jobs through no fault of their own, off the unemployment rolls and gotten them back to work. I am grateful for the hard work of TWC staff which made the success of these initiatives possible.

Even though my term as Texas Workforce Commissioner does not expire until February 2015, I have informed the Governor's office of my plan to step down as Commissioner early next year. During my remaining time as the Commissioner representing employers, I intend to work on expanding opportunities for vocational and technical education at the secondary and post-secondary school levels in Texas. At the same time, I will continue to advocate for tax and regulatory policies to encourage private sector job creation here in Texas and across the nation. In particular, we need to change the way we tax business to rebuild our U.S. manufacturing base and bring jobs home to America.

It has been an honor to serve as Chairman of TWC and I am appreciative of the opportunity Governor Perry gave me to work on behalf of the people of Texas.

Tom Pauken is Chairman of the Texas Workforce Commission and author of Bringing America Home.

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The Texas Workforce Commission is a state agency dedicated to helping Texas employers, workers and communities prosper economically. For details on TWC and the programs it offers in coordination with its network of local workforce development boards, call (512) 463-8556 or visit www.texasworkforce.org.