

# STATE OF NEVADA SEEKS COLD WAR MONIES TO IMPLEMENT JOB TRAINING

On April 27, 1992, the United States HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS heard testimony from local officials concerning appropriations for job training.

Councilman Frank Hawkins, Jr. who serves as Chairman of the Board of Local Elected Officials and Thomas N. Weir, Director of Marketing for Executive Suites of America appeared to discuss funding for the 1993 fiscal year. A volunteer, Mr. Weir serves as Chairman of the Southern Nevada Private Industry Council. Both gentlemen appeared on behalf of the Private Industry Council. Mr. Weir also represented the Nevada Business Services, the local administrative entity.

Councilman Hawkins states, "There needs to be allocations of military savings freed up and recommended to domestic spending priorities." Mr. Hawkins cannot strongly enough state the importance to the committee to swiftly relocate these monies to highly pressing support programs for our people." Again, quoting Councilman Hawkins, "without the capability to provide state of the art education as well as employment and training services at early stages to these individuals, who are themselves the victims of the social support system which has virtually collapsed over time, it's hardly surprising that they would lead to a life of crime and despair."

It is the responsibility of our local elected officials as myself quoting Mr. Hawkins, "to involve the community at the front end of the system in order to ensure the provision of quality services to these young people." His remarks focused on the theory that any social program requires financial support and those resources are currently controlled by this committee and it is imperative that there funds be redirected on a domestic agenda.

An example, of one of our successful ventures is the placing of 55 single parents, predominantly women on welfare in a custom created program in conjunction with our local university. We were fortunate enough to contract with Circus Circus, Inc., owners of the Excalibur Hotel here in Las Vegas to hire our trainees in an unsubsidized employment positions. Each participant began with a

starting wage of \$7.50 per hour including: full health, dental and vision care for them and their dependents plus uniforms and two meals a day.

What has the future brought those welfare parents? They are no longer dependent on welfare subsidies in excess of \$190,000 annually, they are able to live with pride and dignity, earn in excess of \$700,00 per

annum, pay taxes exceeding \$100,000 per year and re-invest monies into our local economy. Quoting Mr. Weir, "A HAND-UP NOT A HAND-OUT."

Through the continual funding of the JTPA programs, we will be able to attempt to provide services to people who are not simple economically disadvantaged but offer assistance to those faced with limitations in-

cluding: teen pregnancy, limited language skills, illiteracy, ex-offender status, etc. Due to the strain placed by social needs on available funding such as: increased prison costs and a ten percent (10%) population increase, it is necessary to generate new avenues of monetary sources.

Both Councilman Hawkins  
(See Nevada, Page 24)

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