

Texas Workforce Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Texas Workforce Commission to Host Solution-Focused Economic Summit in January

T. Boone Pickens, Top Texas Leaders to Address Economic Challenges

AUSTIN – The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) will host a groundbreaking economic summit in Austin, *Putting America Back to Work*. Prominent business and government leaders, including Texas Gov. Rick Perry, will gather January 15 and 16, 2009, to share information and develop strategies in the areas of the economy, energy and manufacturing.

- Gov. Rick Perry
- Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst
- Texas Commissioner of Agriculture Todd Staples
- BP Capital Chairman T. Boone Pickens
- TWC Chairman Tom Pauken
- Texas Public Utility Commission Chairman Barry Smitherman
- Former Texas Secretary of State Phil Wilson, Senior Vice President of Public Affairs, Luminant
- Former Texas Comptroller John Sharp

Dewhurst will present opening remarks at the summit. Following a keynote address by Pickens, panel discussions will address Lessening Our Dependence on Foreign Energy, The Texas Economic Model, Rebuilding Our Manufacturing Base, and Challenges of Our Business Tax Structure. Sharp will open the second day of the conference as the breakfast keynote speaker.

Texas business, economic development and education leaders are invited to attend this important event to share ideas and develop strategies to move Texas forward during these challenging economic times.

To register, visit the TWC Web site at <http://www.twc.state.tx.us/events.html#back2work>. Seating is limited. A draft agenda of the event is available at http://www.twc.state.tx.us/back2work_draftagenda.pdf. The conference will be held at the Omni Austin Hotel at Southpark, 4140 Governor's Row. Special conference hotel room rates are available for \$85 plus tax before January 5, 2009.

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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 unison with its network of local workforce development boards, call (512) 463-8556 or visit www.texasworkforce.org.