

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 19, 2016

## Job Fair for Displaced Mining and Steel Workers to be Held on Thursday Open to the Public; More than 45 Employers to Attend

JASPER – The Alabama Career Center System, in partnership with Senator Greg Reed (R) Jasper, Bevill State Community College, and multiple area economic development agencies, will host a job fair on Thursday, January 21, 2016 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Community Health Systems Activity Center in Jasper.

The job fair is aimed at helping displaced mining and steel workers in the area get back into the workforce, but is open to the public.

"We know that hundreds of steel and coal industry employees have been laid off in the past few months in this area," said Alabama Department of Labor Commissioner Fitzgerald Washington. "These workers have valuable skills that can easily transfer to new careers in other fields, such as manufacturing or utilities. This job fair was primarily designed to help get back on their feet."

More than 45 employers are scheduled to attend, including: Alabama Power, DCH Health Systems, Georgia Pacific, and ACIPCO, among others. (Full listing of employers attached.)

"Thursday's job fair will be a tremendous opportunity for local workers to interview with over 40 different companies that are hiring," Reed said. "A lot of families have been hit by the recent layoffs in the steel and mining industries and the job fair is a chance for them to get back on their feet, to talk with employers that need skilled workers."

Dozens attended a job preparation workshop held last week in order to help prospective employees prepare for the job fair. Staff from the Jasper Career Center coached applicants in résumé preparation, interview skills, and how to dress for success.

The Alabama Career Center System's mobile career center along with staff from the Jasper Career Center and other area career centers will be onsite at the job to assist jobseekers in applying for jobs.

Applicants should come to the job fair with their résumés, be prepared to interview, and should be dressed professionally.

WHEN: Thursday, January 21, 2016

9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

WHERE: Community Health Systems Activity Center

204 East 19th Street Jasper, AL 35501

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Members of the media needing more information should contact Tara Hutchison at (334) 242-8616.