

State to review Job Training Act

By EDITH WOOTEN
Tar Heel Staff Writer

Reaganomics, a shift to supply-side economics which emphasizes private industry and de-emphasizes government regulation, has come up with another innovation.

This time it concerns job training and employment for the poor and unemployed.

The Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) passed by Congress last October replaces the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA).

Jim Lott, who worked with CETA and is the director of North Carolina's Job Training Coordinating Council, which decided the policy for JTPA, said the new program will encourage more participation from the private sector.

The coordinating council will include more members from the business sector than it has in the past.

Lott said that with more "hard-headed businessmen involved, the program would probably be run more efficiently and be better organized."

There are representatives from three groups: heads of state agencies, members of local government and leaders in private industry.

The council will examine the needs of the disadvantaged and unemployed throughout the state and figure out methods to deal with these problems.

"We hope that by involving the private sector we can come up with programs that are more attractive to business people," Lott said.

Lott said that although most of the programs would still be in operation, such as in-school youth career, vocational counseling and remedial education, adult skills and basic education, and on the job training, payments would change.

"Instead of paying a stipend to individuals attending a training course, JTPA will pay the industry that hired a person through the agency half of its training cost," he said.

This would probably be a more cost efficient way to run the program, but he said that the people who needed the service the most, the poorest of the poor, would suffer.

"Those who don't have any way of supporting themselves

while they are attending class or learning a new skill will be hurt the most," he said.

The new act calls for a series of checks and balances to determine the success of the various programs.

The state will calculate the average cost of training for those who get jobs through the program. It will also average wage change upon entrance and conclusion.

"With CETA," Lott said, "you got money whether you did a good or bad job. The JTPA will be funded according to its performance standards."

Service areas will include a population of 200,000 rather than the 100,000 limit CETA used.

"This will combine some cities and counties that have been funded separately in the past," Lott said.

Funding for the program is determined by a national formula; the state and local governments have no influence over how much money they get.

The council's recommendations will be decided upon today. Lott said he expects little if any change.

DWI

have had to drink, and the officer may do this in a very casual manner," Kirkman said. "Unless you have had absolutely nothing to drink, answering that question could lead you into an expensive problem, regardless of whether you are later convicted or acquitted of driving while impaired."

Expensive, indeed. According to Dorothy Bernholz, director of SLS, just being charged and acquitted—a process involving up to four judicial hearings—will cost a lot because attorneys are being recommended not to take a DWI case for less than \$1,000. Currently, the usual minimum fee for handling a DWI case is \$250, Bernholz said.

The costs of being convicted of a DWI offense would be even higher, and in more than financial terms, Kirkman said.

Now, few people are jailed for drunken driving, but Kirkman said the new law "takes away much of the power of judges when assessing punishment."

Instead, the law outlines five levels of punishment which require jail time, community/service, and/or fines, which have been increased, Kirkman said.

A judge will determine which of the five levels the driver will be tried under based on the aggravating and mitigating factors involved in the case, Kirkman said.

Levels one and two—involving aggravating factors such as a previous DWI conviction within the past seven years—will carry the most severe penalties. Punishment for level one is at least 14 days and no more than two years in jail and a fine up to \$2,000 or both. Level two punishment is half that of level one, Kirkman said.

In levels three through five—involving mitigating factors such as a good driving record—a judge has some discretion in deciding at what level the defendant should be tried and sentenced, but Kirkman said these levels still carry mandatory sentencing requirements of jail terms, community service or both.

Such tough penalties have prompted praise from those dedicated to reducing the drunken driving

problem, but the law which took five months of debate to produce is also being criticized for its shortcomings.

Kirkman said the new law places even more stress on the controversial Breathalyzer machine. An expert at the workshop he attended noted 127 ways the machine can go wrong, Kirkman said.

Other criticism of the new law is aimed at its failure to "appropriate one penny more" for its enforcement or for the prosecution of its offenders, Bernholz said.

The law will also mean more litigation at a time when judges are already complaining about their caseload, Kirkman added.

Criticism of the law is coming also from the private sector as restaurant and bar owners continued

to resist the dramshop provision and the increased drinking age.

Under the final watered-down version, proprietors will be liable only for selling alcohol to minors who are involved in accidents. But Mickey Ewell, owner of Spanky's and a member of the N.C. Restaurant Association, said the association would continue to lobby against the liability laws.

Ewell also said there will be problems with the drinking age being raised because the law will not stop 18-year-olds from drinking.

Despite its faults, the new law is tough and thorough, Kirkman said. "Student legal services suggests that all students and their social organizations, formal and informal alike, should be prepared to change their drinking habits."

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SECOND SOLE

lawsuit

From page 1

he said. "Send me the article ("Student may file suit; Claims '83 concert was mismanaged," June 2). It was sent to Lee on Monday.

Tuesday night, Lee said he could not comment on anything because he is in Ohio and has not yet seen the allegations against him. Lee said he would like to defend himself publicly in reference to articles in *The Tar Heel*.

Wilson said the committee sought and received advice from Howard Henry, director of the Student Union, who did not recommend rain insurance. "They asked my opinion," Henry said. "I wasn't making any decisions. The advance sales were low. I don't think the concert could have made it one way or the other."

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