

Information from other Workforce Areas was reviewed and the differing allowance of 0% to 100% noted. National vendors were discussed and local/regional providers returning to classrooms. Staff informed the Committee several programs were approved locally for more than 50% online instruction and the pilot programs continue. Discussion of students demonstrating greater success with some in-class and personal interactions continued. Concerns that 100% online programs would absorb a greater amount of funding if approved since local schools seem to be economical and have a proven track record. Troy Collett led the discussion about online providers paying an application fee and concerns about vetting providers was voiced by Brent Kettler. The issue of customers being aware of programs' past performance so an informed decision can be made was discussed. Performance of online programs may be difficult to track. Performance is reported by the educational institution but not all are monitored by Florida Department of Education. It was decided to table this decision for the next meeting when more members are present.

VI. LOCAL CAPS FOR WORKFORCE TRAINING

Staff stated the lifetime funding caps are currently set at \$6,500 for diploma/certificate programs, \$8,000 for AS, and \$10,000 for BS. The handout outlined funding caps of other like size Regions. Kim Hustad noted raising the caps will decrease the number of individuals we are able to serve. Staff noted Center staff recommend the funding cap for Diploma/Certificate programs be raised to \$7,000 and have the other caps remain the same amounts.

Brent Kettler made a **motion** to make a recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve raising the lifetime cap for Diploma/Certificate programs to \$7,000. Troy Collett seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved by the Committee.

VII. OPEN DISCUSSION

Kim Hustad mentioned the need for performance of our regional training providers being reviewed at the end of this year. Brent Kettler feels it is important the programs reflect Southwest Florida's "footprint" by providing programs to meet the current and future needs of local/regional businesses. Staff noted recent legislation will create a Master Credential List. Brent Kettler suggested it would be good to research our Region's needs to see if this aligns with master list. This will be an agenda item for a future meeting. Discussion about the 10% hold back was led by staff and will be discussed as information is received from the Department of Economic Opportunity.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.