

WASHINGTON, DC (September 13, 2011) - The International Economic Development Council (IEDC) surveyed all 4,500 of its member organizations this September to gather the best ideas for solving America's job crisis. The top proposals are to be compiled in a document to be presented to the President and U.S. Congress. IEDC and its member organizations are internationally recognized expert sources of job creation and ideas.

The ten best ideas were reviewed by a blue ribbon panel of former IEDC chairmen as well as representatives from Development Counsellors International (DCI). A final vote was then held to choose the winning idea. The winner will be announced during the [Annual Conference in Charlotte from September 18-21](#).

**Jeremy Newberg, Principal at Capital Access, Inc. in Philadelphia, PA submitted the winning suggestion:**

*Create, in partnership with state governments, a National Energy and Infrastructure Industrial Policy, which would provide a mix of grants and bonds for sparking energy independence and economic development. Each state would have to develop investment priorities with cities and counties based on one or two industries that fit the definition of Localism, such as: energy, infrastructure, transportation, education, healthcare, food and invention.*

**Two submissions tied for the second place spot:**

John Cody, President & CEO, Longmont Area EC, Longmont, CO suggested:

*Limit the production of products with U.S. intellectual property rights to the United States and reduce the corporate tax rate for companies that do their manufacturing within the U.S. rather than off-shore.*

**Michael Krajovic, President & CEO, Fay-Penn EDC, Union Town, PA suggested:**

*Invest in a new job training program that is coordinated with unemployment benefits. In order to receive extended unemployment benefits the unemployed would be required to attend a training program in occupational areas with demonstrated high industry demand.*

**The remaining Top Ten ideas include:**

*Provide 50% matching funds to the strong AA+ and higher credit rating cities/counties to create infrastructure improvement jobs (roads, fiber, utilities, etc.), now and in the future, that pay at least \$15.00 per hour.*

*Remove the Bush tax cuts across the board. The revenue should then go to support an infrastructure bank for transportation, water, and sewer systems.*

*Eliminate the U.S. corporate income tax on repatriation of foreign profits to U.S. for investment purposes.*

*Create an employment tax credit for businesses that bring on new, or laid off workers to full-time employment.*

*Provide R&D credits and tax holidays on the purchase of capital equipment for manufacturing purposes.*

*Create a public-private national innovation partnership. The federal government would invest its public dollars in an innovation fund available to higher education for research, and will challenge the private sector to match it.*

*Enhance the EB-5 Flexible Immigration Program for companies creating technology and green jobs: lower the limitations of investment amounts to \$250,000, eliminate the requirement to invest in regional centers, lower the amount of new jobs created to five, and remove the cap on the number of visas issued.*

The [International Economic Development Council's](#) (IEDC) [Annual Conference](#) in Charlotte, NC, September 18-21, 2011 will be the largest Economic Development meeting in the world. Themed "[Connect Locally, Succeed Globally](#)", this event brings together more than 1,500 of field's top professionals. In the three-day setting these experts will address the most pressing business condition and job issues that they – and their countries – have faced in more than fifty years. With details of the very latest successes in mind, attendees will return home with rich new insights to improve the economic lot of their communities, large and small.