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NASHVILLE - Tennessee Quality announced the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development as a winner of the 2001 Tennessee Quality Commitment Award.

The mission of the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development is to be a seamless organization with proactive employees who enhance economic success for business and workers by bringing those who offer jobs and those who need jobs, job-related assistance, education and training together in a safe, profitable workplace.

Tennessee Gov. Don Sundquist said, "The quest for excellence distinguishes Tennessee as a place where businesses flourish, consistently high-quality standards are set and a skilled, competent workforce is ready for future challenges. Tennessee Quality winners not only attain the highest national and international quality standards in their industries year after year—they set them.

"I am proud of the 2001 Tennessee Quality Award winners, and I applaud their accomplishments. These organizations enhance Tennessee's reputation as the 'Quality State.'

"I am particularly proud that one of our state departments has been selected as a Tennessee Quality Commitment Award winner," Sundquist added. State government continually aims to operate more efficiently, and the Department of Labor and Workforce Development and Commissioner Magill have proven their commitment to excellence."

The Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development is made up of employees committed to both the development and protection of the state's workforce.

The Department is made up of six divisions: Employment and Workforce Development; Workers' Compensation; Tennessee Occupational Safety and Health

Administration; Employment Security; Boilers, Elevators & Mines, Labor Standards, Research and Statistics; and Planning and Continuous Improvement.

“Being such a diverse and large department, it is certainly an accomplishment to win the Tennessee Quality Commitment Award. I commend all of the department’s employees who have dedicated their time and efforts to public service. They are truly committed to serving Tennesseans,” Commissioner Michael E. Magill said. “By winning this award, we know that we are headed in the right direction.”

Quality Commitment Award recognition is provided to Tennessee organizations that have demonstrated, through their commitment and implementation of quality management principles, progress in building sound and notable processes. These organizations have documented a solid approach to system-level quality management and are implementing plans and procedures.

The Tennessee Quality program is patterned after the Baldrige National Quality Award, recognized as the national standard of excellence for quality and productivity. Unlike the Baldrige Award, the Tennessee Quality program is open to all business and industry as well as governmental agencies and private educational institutions.

The Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development is an equal opportunity employer. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

El Departamento del Trabajo y de la Fuerza Laboral es un organismo empresarial que aplica la igualdad de oportunidades. Los Servicios y ayudas auxiliares están disponibles para los individuos con impedimentos si los solicitan.