MEMORANDUM FOR:  ELLIOT P. LEWIS
Assistant Inspector General for Audit
Office of the Inspector General

FROM:  JANE OATES
Assistant Secretary for Employment and Training
Employment and Training Administration

SUBJECT:  Response to Draft Report Number: 18-11-006-03-390
“Recovery Act: Workforce Investment Act Youth Program”

We are pleased with the positive results of the audit entitled “Recovery Act: Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Youth Program.” The audit report clearly demonstrates that the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) was able to effectively implement the Recovery Act WIA Youth activities funding provided by Congress. Your audit results also demonstrate that these funds will be fully spent and have been spent on their intended purpose, with the majority of funds spent on summer employment and paid and unpaid work experiences.

While ETA agrees with the audit results contained in the draft report, there are two minor changes required in the report’s language in order to better convey factual information. First, on page one in the next to last sentence of the first paragraph, ETA recommends clarifying that the $1.188 billion allotment is for States as well as outlying areas and Indian and Native American (INA) programs.

Second, on page two and eleven describing the requirements to track the Work Opportunity Tax credit (WOTC), ETA recommends clarifying that no LWIB/INAs were required to track the WOTC to hire disconnected youth. We recommend deleting the word “most” and replacing it with “although” so that the statement reads “Finally our audit found that although LWIB/INAs were not required to track the WOTC ... 14 of the respondents surveyed indicated that they had implemented systems designed to track the WOTC used by employers.”

We appreciate the opportunity to review and comment on the draft report.