Hello everyone, I am Julian Alvarez, the Commissioner Representing Labor for the Texas Workforce Commission.

This month, we celebrated the relaunch of the Texas Internship Challenge. Interns from IBM, Lockheed Martin, Marek, and Trio Electric joined Industry leaders and Tri-agency Commissioners renewing their commitment to paid internships and apprenticeships.

We also welcomed our first class of Education Outreach Specialists. These workforce counselors will work in multiple regions across the state connecting middle and high school students with TWC information they need to make better informed career choices based on labor market data.

Our programs here at TWC strive to keep our workforce competitive. To understand just how strong our economy is, let’s listen to the July 2019 labor market highlights.

In July, Texas tied the record all-time low seasonally adjusted unemployment rate of 3.4 percent set in June 2019.

The current unemployment rate is the lowest it has been since series tracking began in 1976.

The private sector added 33,400 seasonally adjusted positions over the month.

Leading job growth this month was the Leisure and Hospitality Industry adding 8,300 jobs in July followed by the Construction industry adding 6,300 jobs and Education and Health Services which added 6,100 jobs.

As you just heard, our economy remains strong. As our economy continues to grow, so does the demand for skilled workers statewide.

TWC offers grants to help businesses upskill their workers.

To find out more about our Skills Development Fund grants visit us at skills DOT workforce DOT org. Thank you