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PRESS RELEASE

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Gobi, Berthiaume Announce Workforce Training Fund Grants for Dienes Corporation and Vibram USA

BOSTON – Senator Anne M. Gobi (D-Spencer) and Representative Donald R. Berthiaume, Jr. (R-Spencer) have announced that Dienes Corporation and Vibram USA have been awarded grants through the Workforce Training Fund General Program. Dienes Corporation will receive \$64,260 to train 36 workers and anticipate adding 5 new jobs by 2018. Vibram USA will receive \$106,710 to train 98 workers and anticipate adding 7 new jobs by 2018.

“We are fortunate in Spencer and North Brookfield to have companies like Dienes and Vibram that continue to stay competitive and current by investing in their employees and our region,” said Senator Gobi. “I thank them for their commitment and congratulate them for these awards.”

“These two companies have been mainstays in Spencer and North Brookfield,” said Rep. Berthiaume. “This grant money will ensure that these businesses can continue to expand their workforce and create much needed jobs in the near future.”

Dienes Corporation was founded in 1954 and has been operating in Spencer since 1977. Over 50 employees design, manufacture and distribute the full range of Dienes products from knives to automatic positioning systems.

Vibram is a manufacturer of rubber outsoles for footwear. With US headquarters in Concord, the company manufactures soles under exclusive license by the Quabaug Corporation in North Brookfield.

The Workforce Training Fund General Program is an initiative that helps address productivity and competitiveness by providing resources to invest in the Massachusetts workforce, improve employee skills, and maintain the economic strength and viability of the Commonwealth’s businesses. The Workforce

Training Fund is funded by the Massachusetts employer community via contributions made to Unemployment Insurance and employers that pay into the Fund are eligible for grants.

To learn more about the Workforce Training Fund, please visit www.commcorp.org/wtfp.

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