

Enrolled
House Bill 4141

Sponsored by Representative DEMBROW; Representatives BAILEY, BARKER, BARNHART, BUCKLEY, CLEM, DOHERTY, HARKER, HOLVEY, HOYLE, HUNT, KENY-GUYER, KOMP, KOTEK, NATHANSON, READ, WITT, Senator DINGFELDER (Pre-session filed.)

CHAPTER

AN ACT

Relating to workforce development legislation advisory committee; and declaring an emergency.

Whereas the per capita income rate in Oregon is the lowest among west coast states and lags behind the national average; and

Whereas the unemployment rate in Oregon continues to exceed the national average; and

Whereas Oregon needs to attract more businesses to this state and to grow businesses from within and having a skilled workforce is one of a number of factors businesses consider when deciding where to locate; and

Whereas Oregon, like the rest of the nation, is facing reductions in federal and state workforce programs; and

Whereas our current workforce system and economic development initiatives could be better aligned and leveraged to deliver a workforce that meets business needs for skilled workers; and

Whereas Oregonians could benefit from a more highly aligned and integrated workforce system; and

Whereas the Legislative Assembly and the public need a clear and global understanding of the various workforce funding streams and the deployment and outcome of these investments; and

Whereas Oregon has embarked on an effort to better target public investments in order to improve public services, narrow the state's wage gap, increase employment and end our "cycle of scarcity"; and

Whereas the State Workforce Investment Board is currently engaged in a strategic planning process to create a set of strategies to guide the entire workforce system; and

Whereas Oregon requires a further effort that looks at our entire workforce system, breaks down silos, clarifies vision and outcomes and focuses on proven strategies for better results; now, therefore,

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. (1)(a) The Governor and the members of the State Workforce Investment Board, or a subcommittee composed of members of the board designated by the board, shall constitute an advisory committee that may develop initiatives related to workforce development, including potential proposed legislation that may be introduced during the 2013 regular session of the Legislative Assembly and potential federal waiver requests or other initiatives.

(b) The advisory committee may develop potential proposed legislation, potential federal waiver requests or other initiatives that:

(A) Promote the creation of a highly skilled, high-wage workforce;

(B) Increase the alignment of federal, state and local resources toward implementation of the goals outlined in the State Unified Workforce Plan developed by the State Workforce Investment Board under ORS 660.324;

(C) Increase alignment of federal, state and local resources to implement local strategic workforce plans developed by local workforce investment boards to support the State Unified Workforce Plan developed by the State Workforce Investment Board under ORS 660.324, job creation, industry competitiveness, individual skill development and movement along career pathways;

(D) Increase accountability for achievement of common goals under the state and local plans;

(E) Increase coordination and enhance relations between institutions of higher education, community colleges and labor and apprenticeship programs;

(F) Increase alignment between workforce development and economic development initiatives;

(G) Identify state and local metrics that measure progress toward plan goals and establish a mechanism for tracking progress;

(H) Create greater transparency of budgeting at the state and local levels; and

(I) Increase flexibility and responsiveness of local workforce investment boards.

(c) In addition to developing potential proposed legislation, potential federal waiver requests or other initiatives related to workforce development under paragraph (b) of this subsection, the advisory committee shall consider the value of establishing a work-ready community certification program and make recommendations for implementing the program if appropriate.

(d) In developing potential proposed legislation, potential federal waiver requests or other initiatives under this subsection, the advisory committee shall consult with state agencies that have workforce-related missions, organized labor, public and private sector post-secondary education institutions, the business community, the public and local workforce investment boards.

(2) The advisory committee may submit recommendations for potential proposed legislation, potential federal waiver requests or other initiatives to an interim committee of the Legislative Assembly related to workforce development no later than December 31, 2012.

(3)(a) The advisory committee shall submit a report on its workforce development activities to the Legislative Assembly in the manner specified in ORS 192.245 no later than January 15, 2013.

(b) The advisory committee shall consult with a variety of Oregon businesses about potential barriers to job creation and expansion in Oregon besides the lack of a skilled workforce and shall include its findings in the report submitted to the Legislative Assembly under this subsection.

(4) Members of the advisory committee are not entitled to compensation or reimbursement for expenses for service on the advisory committee.

SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2012 Act is repealed on the date of the convening of the 2013 regular session of the Legislative Assembly as specified in ORS 171.010.

SECTION 3. This 2012 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2012 Act takes effect on its passage.

Passed by House February 17, 2012

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Ramona Kenady Line, Chief Clerk of House

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Bruce Hanna, Speaker of House

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Arnie Roblan, Speaker of House

Passed by Senate February 27, 2012

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Peter Courtney, President of Senate

Received by Governor:

.....M,....., 2012

Approved:

.....M,....., 2012

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John Kitzhaber, Governor

Filed in Office of Secretary of State:

.....M,....., 2012

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Kate Brown, Secretary of State