

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
0  
1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
0  
1  
2  
3  
4

March 25, 2024

ENGROSSED HOUSE  
BILL NO. 3597

By: Hill and Pittman of the  
House

and

Paxton of the Senate

An Act relating to state government; amending 74 O.S. 2021, Sections 5003.10d and 5003.10e, which relate to the Governor's Council for Workforce and Economic Development; modifying reimbursement of travel expenses; modifying coordination of the Council activities; and declaring an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 2021, Section 5003.10d, is amended to read as follows:

Section 5003.10d A. The Governor's Council for Workforce and Economic Development established under the authority of Executive Order 2005-27 is hereby recognized by the Legislature as the State's Workforce Investment Board. The Council succeeded and was established in lieu of the Oklahoma Workforce Investment Board. Appointed members of the Council serving under the authority of Executive Order 2005-27 when this act becomes effective shall

1 continue to serve until their terms have expired and their  
2 successors have been duly appointed.

3 Pursuant to the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act,  
4 the purpose of the Council shall be to:

5 1. Guide the development of a comprehensive and coordinated  
6 workforce development system for the state and monitor its  
7 operation; and

8 2. Review and make recommendations that will align the  
9 workforce system, including education, with the economic development  
10 goals of the state for the purpose of creating workforce and  
11 economic development systems that are integrated and shall provide  
12 Oklahoma a competitive advantage in a global economy.

13 B. Membership of the Council shall include representatives of  
14 private employers who reflect Oklahoma's projected and desired  
15 business and industry base and public officials from agencies which  
16 provide programs and services related to workforce, education and  
17 economic development. All Council members shall be in positions to  
18 influence policy and hiring decisions within their organizations.  
19 Initial appointments to the Council shall conform to the following  
20 described schedule:

21 1. The membership of the Council shall comply with the federal  
22 requirements of the state investment board;

23 2. A majority of the Council shall come from described private  
24 sector employers, including owners of businesses, chief executives

1 or operating officers of businesses or other business executives or  
2 employees with optimum policymaking or hiring authority, and who  
3 represent businesses, including small businesses, that provide  
4 employment opportunities that, at a minimum, include high-quality,  
5 work-relevant training and development in in-demand industry sectors  
6 or occupations in this state;

7 3. State officials shall include incumbents or designees of the  
8 following named offices, or their successors in office or function:

9 a. Governor,

10 b. two members of the Oklahoma Senate, appointed by the  
11 President Pro Tempore,

12 c. two members of the Oklahoma House of Representatives,  
13 appointed by the Speaker, and

14 d. ~~Executive Director of the Oklahoma Department of~~  
15 ~~Commerce, and~~

16 e. Executive Director of the Oklahoma Employment Security  
17 Commission;

18 4. Additional members, at the discretion and pleasure of the  
19 Governor, may be appointed representing the needs or interests of  
20 the state economy or specific regional needs; and

21 5. Ex-officio members, at the discretion and pleasure of the  
22 Governor, may be included to provide expertise and agency  
23 information to the Council. These appointments may include, but not  
24 be limited to:

- a. the Secretary of Education,
- b. the Secretary of Health and Human Services,
- c. the Secretary of Commerce,
- d. the Chancellor of the Oklahoma State Regents for  
Higher Education,
- e. the Director of Career and Technology Education,
- f. the State Superintendent of Public Instruction,
- g. the Director of the State Department of Rehabilitation  
Services,
- h. the Director of the Oklahoma Department of  
Corrections,
- i. the Commissioner of the Oklahoma Department of Mental  
Health and Substance Abuse Services,
- j. the Director of the Oklahoma Health Care Authority,  
and
- k. the Native American Liaison.

C. Private sector members shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Governor for a two-year term beginning October 1, 2005, and may be reappointed. However, of the initial private sector members appointed, half shall be appointed for an initial term of one (1) year beginning October 1, 2005. Private members may be removed from office for failure to attend three consecutive Council meetings. The chair of the Council shall be from the

1 private sector and shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure  
2 of the Governor.

3 D. The Council shall meet at such times and places as it deems  
4 appropriate. Members shall serve without compensation. Council  
5 members employed by a state agency shall be reimbursed travel  
6 expenses related to their service on the Council as authorized by  
7 state law by their respective state agency. Legislative members of  
8 the Council shall be reimbursed by their respective houses for  
9 necessary travel expenses incurred in the performance of their  
10 duties as authorized by state law. Remaining Council members shall  
11 also be reimbursed travel expenses related to their service on the  
12 Council by the Oklahoma ~~Department of Commerce~~ Employment Security  
13 Commission as authorized by state law. No member of the Council  
14 shall profit, directly or indirectly, from any transaction with the  
15 Council.

16 E. The duties and responsibilities of the Council in the  
17 development, monitoring and aligning of the workforce system with  
18 economic development shall include, but not be limited to:

19 1. Performing the duties required of the state governance board  
20 by the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act;

21 2. Identifying the human resource investment needs of Oklahoma  
22 business and industry, together with those of the citizens of the  
23 state, so that each might respond to and meet the needs of the  
24 others and thus together build a robust, diversified economy;

1        3. Reviewing and evaluating workforce development programs  
2 within the state, formulate recommendations to increase their  
3 efficiency and effectiveness, eliminate duplication, and align with  
4 economic goals. Recommendations shall be communicated to the  
5 Governor, Legislature, state and federal government agencies and  
6 appropriate individuals and entities within the private sector;

7        4. Increasing academic capability and technical skills within  
8 the state workforce and foster lifelong learning among Oklahoma's  
9 citizens;

10       5. Strengthening collaboration among institutions which provide  
11 education and training services, government agencies which  
12 coordinate employment and other human resource investment  
13 activities, and Oklahoma business and industry to create a seamless  
14 system to nurture healthy economic development; and

15       6. Enhancing rural economic development capability and  
16 capacity, giving particular attention to regional collaboration and  
17 partnering.

18       F. Activities of the Council shall be coordinated by the  
19 Secretary of ~~Commerce and directed by the Deputy Secretary of~~  
20 ~~Commerce for Workforce Development, or their successors in office or~~  
21 ~~function. Administrative and staffing support for the Council shall~~  
22 ~~be coordinated by the Office of Workforce Solutions within the~~  
23 ~~Department of Commerce~~ Workforce Development.

1       G. The State Workforce Partners originally established under  
2 the authority of Executive Order 2005-27 as the Workforce Solutions  
3 Staff Team is hereby recognized by the Legislature. This  
4 interagency team shall be comprised of executive level staff from  
5 workforce, education and economic development agencies of the state  
6 for the purpose of providing staff support to the Council and to  
7 create efficiencies, eliminate duplication, and eliminate barriers  
8 to jointly providing a service delivery system. Other members may  
9 be included on this team as the Governor may deem necessary to  
10 accomplish this goal.

11       H. The Council shall be supported by funds available to state  
12 agencies pursuant to state and federal laws and regulations. Each  
13 member of the Council whose agency qualifies pursuant to state and  
14 federal law to receive and use such funds shall assist by providing  
15 support and funding of the Council in carrying out the  
16 responsibilities of the Council.

17       I. The Council shall form a subcommittee on health workforce  
18 whose purpose shall be to inform, coordinate, and facilitate  
19 statewide efforts to ensure that a well-trained, adequately  
20 distributed, and flexible health workforce is available to meet the  
21 needs of an efficient and effective health care system in Oklahoma.  
22 Duties of the Health Workforce Subcommittee shall include, but not  
23 be limited to, the following:

24

1 1. Conducting data analysis and preparing reports on health  
2 workforce supply and demand;

3 2. Research and analysis of state health professional education  
4 and training capacity;

5 3. Recommend recruitment and retention strategies for areas  
6 determined by the Oklahoma Primary Care Office or the Oklahoma  
7 Office of Rural Health to be areas of high need; and

8 4. Assessment of health workforce policy, evaluation of impact  
9 on Oklahoma's health system and health outcomes, and developing  
10 health workforce policy recommendations.

11 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 2021, Section 5003.10e, is  
12 amended to read as follows:

13 Section 5003.10e A. There is hereby created the Work-based  
14 Learning Program. The Governor's Council on Workforce and Economic  
15 Development shall have authority over the program. The Governor's  
16 Council shall coordinate the program by establishing partnerships  
17 with the State Department of Education, the State Regents for Higher  
18 Education, the State Department of Career and Technology Education,  
19 the Oklahoma Board of Private Vocational Schools, the Secretary of  
20 State and business entities throughout the state. The ~~Oklahoma~~  
21 ~~Office of Workforce Development~~ Oklahoma Employment Security  
22 Commission, serving as the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act  
23 designee as established by the Governor in Executive Order 2023-21,  
24 shall have the official duty to develop and maintain a Work-based

1 Learning Program within its jurisdiction ~~to be focused~~ and will  
2 collaborate, specifically related to registered apprenticeships,  
3 with the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education in  
4 its focus on increasing the number of registered apprenticeships and  
5 internship programs, defined as paid and unpaid work experience by  
6 the United States Department of Labor as contained in 20 CFR  
7 681.600, in this state to at least an aggregate of twenty thousand  
8 positions by the end of the calendar year 2020. All partners  
9 participating in the Work-based Learning Program shall be required  
10 to provide their expertise, time and resources as deemed necessary  
11 to advance and sustain the work-based learning goals of Oklahoma  
12 Works to assist with publishing an annual progress report showing  
13 each state agency's steps and accomplishments toward meeting  
14 statewide workforce goals and to network and coordinate with other  
15 public and private entities in an effort to align all state  
16 agencies, boards and commissions and the private business sector in  
17 meeting Oklahoma Works goals.

18 B. The Work-based Learning Program shall include the following  
19 components:

20 1. Coordinate work-based learning opportunities through the  
21 state's labor market and labor exchange systems to connect youth and  
22 adults in public and private sectors;  
23  
24

1        2. Work toward increasing the number of youth and adults  
2 participating successfully in public and private work-based learning  
3 opportunities;

4        3. Set standards for equality and fair access to quality work-  
5 based learning experiences for all Oklahomans, including, but not  
6 limited to, women, out-of-school youth, adults, African Americans,  
7 Hispanics, Native Americans, veterans, individuals with disabilities  
8 and other target populations identified in the federal Workforce  
9 Innovation and Opportunity Act;

10       4. Promote quality work-based learning experiences which are  
11 developmentally appropriate, including an orientation for all  
12 parties, identify learning objectives for the term of the  
13 experience, explore multiple aspects of an industry, develop  
14 workplace skills and competencies, assess performance, provide  
15 opportunities for work-based reflection, link appropriate next steps  
16 and see that all aspects are documented and reported and comply with  
17 state and federal labor laws;

18       5. Convene industry partners to develop industry-specific  
19 standards for internships in order to aid employers with the  
20 creation of rigorous internship programs; and

21       6. Prioritize paid work-based learning experiences to ensure  
22 equity and access.

23       C. Each organization seeking to be a registered Work-based  
24 Learning Program in Oklahoma shall either:

1        1. Be registered as a Work-based Learning Program, such as an  
2 apprenticeship, with the United States Department of Labor; or

3        2. File a certificate each year in the Office of the Secretary  
4 of State, which shall confirm such an organization is an active  
5 participant in Oklahoma's registered Work-based Learning Program.

6 The certificate to be filed shall include:

7            a. the name of the business, nonprofit organization or  
8 government organization,

9            b. the street address of the organization,

10           c. the name of the primary contact for the organization,

11           d. the electronic mail address for the primary contact of  
12 the registered organization,

13           e. the registered organization's North American Industry  
14 Classification System code (NAICS), if applicable,

15           f. the number and type of work-based learning  
16 opportunities proposed for the year, the estimated  
17 term of each opportunity, the proposed occupations,  
18 and estimated number of hours per week of each  
19 opportunity, if available,

20           g. the number and type of work-based learning  
21 opportunities proposed for the year, the estimated  
22 term of each opportunity, the proposed occupations,  
23 and the estimated number of hours per week of each  
24 opportunity, if available,

1           h.   signed acknowledgement of the application by the  
2               primary contact, and

3           i.   the annual renewal shall be due on the anniversary  
4               date of filing the registration application.

5       The filing shall be made electronically via the Secretary of  
6       State website.

7       D.   The annual certificate of participation shall be due on the  
8       anniversary date of original registration, as the case may be, until  
9       cancellation of the work-based organization in the Work-based  
10      Learning Program.

11      E.   The Secretary of State shall, at least sixty (60) days  
12      before the anniversary date each year of a participating  
13      organization, cause a notice of renewal of the annual certificate to  
14      be sent to such organization to its last known electronic mail  
15      address of record filed with the Secretary of State. At the time of  
16      renewal, the organization shall provide a Work-based Learning  
17      Program annual summary, including for each position offered:

- 18          1.   The number of opportunities posted;
- 19          2.   The number of opportunities hired;
- 20          3.   The type of work-based learning opportunities offered (e.g.,  
21      internship, apprenticeship);
- 22          4.   The Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) code;
- 23          5.   The performance evaluation criteria utilized;
- 24          6.   The term of the position;

1        7. The number of hours per week;

2        8. Paid or unpaid status;

3        9. Academic credit awarding institution, if applicable;

4        10. Academic hours awarded, if applicable; and

5        11. The gender, age and ethnicity of hires, if available.

6        F. A registered organization that fails to file the annual  
7 renewal and pay the annual renewal fee by the anniversary date of  
8 registration shall cease to be a registered organization with the  
9 Governor's Council for Workforce and Economic Development.

10       G. The Secretary of State shall charge and collect the  
11 following fees:

12       1. For filing the original application, a fee of Fifty Dollars  
13 (\$50.00) submitted to the Secretary of State; and

14       2. For filing subsequent annual renewals, a fee of Twenty-five  
15 Dollars (\$25.00) submitted to the Secretary of State.

16       H. To coordinate with statewide career pathways efforts,  
17 registered organizations under this program shall recruit  
18 participants by posting job announcements on the state labor market  
19 exchange system. Job announcements shall include the registered  
20 organization number as assigned by the Secretary of State.

21       I. The Secretary of State shall transfer on July 1 of each  
22 fiscal year an amount based on the Governor's Council for Workforce  
23 Development annual budget not to exceed Eight Hundred Fifty Thousand  
24 Dollars (\$850,000.00) annually from the Secretary of State revolving

1 fund to support the administration of the program and business  
2 registration to help enable the development of the state's talent  
3 pipeline.

4 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation  
5 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby  
6 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and  
7 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

8 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS AND COMMERCE  
9 March 25, 2024 - DO PASS  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24