

An Act

ENROLLED SENATE
BILL NO. 662

By: Pugh of the Senate

and

Hill and Lay of the House

An Act relating to workforce development; amending Section 5, Chapter 361, O.S.L. 2023 (40 O.S. Supp. 2024, Section 904), which relates to the powers, duties, and responsibilities of the Oklahoma Workforce Commission; expanding duties; authorizing the Commission to develop and implement certain programs to address certain needs; allowing Commission to utilize certain funds; providing for promulgation of rules; creating the Oklahoma Workforce Commission Revolving Fund; determining sources of funds; declaring the funds appropriated; determining a purpose of the funds; updating statutory references; updating statutory language; and providing for codification.

SUBJECT: Workforce development

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 5, Chapter 361, O.S.L. 2023 (40 O.S. Supp. 2024, Section 904), is amended to read as follows:

Section 904. The Oklahoma Workforce Commission shall have the following powers, duties, and responsibilities:

1. To administer the provisions of ~~this act~~ the Oklahoma Workforce Transformation Act or any duty as directed by statute;
2. To establish an office for the Commission within this state;

3. To elect whatever other officers may be necessary to direct operations of the Commission;

4. To employ or contract for personnel and administrative support as the Commission deems appropriate to carry out the purpose and provisions of ~~this act~~ the Oklahoma Workforce Transformation Act, including, but not limited to, a nonprofit corporation to carry out the Commission's objectives, an ~~Executive Director~~ executive director or other chief executive officer, and any other employees or contractors the Commission deems appropriate, and to prescribe their duties and fix their compensation;

5. To administer the Workforce Coordination Revolving Fund created in Section 255.4 of Title 62 of the Oklahoma Statutes;

6. To administer the Oklahoma Workforce Commission Revolving Fund created in Section 3 of this act;

7. To approve or disapprove the budget of the Commission;

~~7.~~ 8. To promulgate rules to carry out the provisions of ~~this act~~ the Oklahoma Workforce Transformation Act;

~~8.~~ 9. To enter into contracts or agreements for studies, professional services, grant administration and procurement, research projects, supplies, or any other services the Commission deems necessary to carry out its purpose, and to incur those expenses necessary to carry out those purposes;

~~9.~~ 10. To cooperate with any private, local, state, or national commission, organization, agency, or group and to make contracts and agreements for joint programs beneficial to Oklahoma's workforce development efforts;

~~10.~~ 11. To accept donations, grants, contributions, and gifts from any public or private source and deposit such in the Oklahoma Workforce Coordination Commission Revolving Fund, created in Section 255.4 3 of Title 62 of the Oklahoma Statutes this act;

~~11.~~ 12. To oversee and direct to the extent permitted by law the activities and administration of the Governor's Council for Workforce and Economic Development, including, but not limited to,

the creation and submission of state plans to the federal government pursuant to the provisions of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act;

~~12.~~ 13. To collect data from federal, state, and local agencies, departments, educational institutions, boards, commissions, or any other entities including, but not limited to:

- a. number of participants in workforce development programming,
- b. cost per participant,
- c. wages before and after participation in programs,
- d. degree or certificate conferred on each participant,
- e. number of jobs open needing degrees or certificates,
- f. labor force and economic information, and
- g. any other information the Commission deems appropriate to guide funding decisions, facilitate its work or the work of workforce development entities in the state, or to understand the impact of the state's workforce efforts and programming;

~~13.~~ 14. To create and maintain a public dashboard and create reports with data concerning workforce development efforts in the state. All state and local agencies, departments, educational institutions, boards, commissions, and other public entities shall cooperate with information and data requests from the Commission or its designees. ~~It is the intent of the Legislature that the~~ The Oklahoma Workforce Commission shall serve as the centralized data and information repository for workforce development activities for the state; ~~and~~

~~14.~~ 15. To make recommendations to the Legislature to improve workforce development programs in the state;

16. To implement programs designed to expand workforce development; and

17. To work with, use and provide data the legislatively created map developed to help make decisions on economic development and workforce needs in the state.

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 905 of Title 40, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. Pursuant to the provisions of Section 904 of Title 40 of the Oklahoma Statutes, the Oklahoma Workforce Commission shall implement programs in this state to address the following:

1. Development of a workforce in high demand occupations or critical occupations as determined by the Oklahoma Workforce Commission. Actions taken by the Commission may include:

- a. identifying the needs of higher education institutions suited for certain high demand or critical workforce areas and helping the institutions develop and implement plans to address those needs,
- b. identify outcomes based on funding,
- c. identifying and partnering for scholarship match opportunities for students interested in these high demand and critical workforce fields, and
- d. helping institutions increase program capacity;

2. Development of work-based learning opportunities, which may include, but not be limited to, internships, apprenticeships, and other career exploration and exposure; and

3. Development of innovation within public schools as defined in Section 1-106 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes that supports workforce success, which may include:

- a. developing enhanced or unique education pathways,
- b. utilizing development grants for basic skills development,

- c. utilizing regulatory innovation grants, and
- d. assisting in the development of career-connected high schools.

B. The Commission may administer these programs through funds in the Oklahoma Workforce Commission Revolving Fund created in Section 3 of this act.

C. The Commission shall promulgate rules necessary to implement the provisions of this section.

SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 906 of Title 40, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

There is hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving fund for the Oklahoma Workforce Commission to be designated the "Oklahoma Workforce Commission Revolving Fund". The fund shall be a continuing fund, not subject to fiscal year limitations, and shall consist of all monies received by the Commission from appropriations, donations, grants, and other sources of funding. All monies accruing to the credit of said fund are hereby appropriated and may be budgeted and expended by the Commission for the purpose of duties imposed upon the Commission by law. Expenditures from said fund shall be made upon warrants issued by the State Treasurer against claims filed as prescribed by law with the Director of the Office of Management and Enterprise Services for approval and payment.

Passed the Senate the 19th day of May, 2025.

Presiding Officer of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives the 6th day of May, 2025.

Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Received by the Office of the Governor this _____

day of _____, 20_____, at _____ o'clock _____ M.

By: _____

Approved by the Governor of the State of Oklahoma this _____

day of _____, 20_____, at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Governor of the State of Oklahoma

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Received by the Office of the Secretary of State this _____

day of _____, 20_____, at _____ o'clock _____ M.

By: _____