

Hall of the House of Representatives

87th General Assembly - Regular Session, 2009

Amendment Form

Subtitle of House Bill No. 1797

"TO CREATE THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY WORKFORCE SYSTEM TASK FORCE."

Amendment No. 1 to House Bill No. 1797.

Amend House Bill No. 1797 as originally introduced:

Delete everything after the enacting clause and substitute the following:

"SECTION 1. TEMPORARY LANGUAGE. DO NOT CODIFY. Findings.

The Task Force for the 21st Century and the Arkansas Economic Development Commission strategic plan identify an educated and skilled workforce as a critical requirement for optimal economic development opportunities for Arkansas. To accomplish this goal it is necessary to develop a workforce system that ensures all federal and state education and workforce training resources are used to ensure that the state is responding to the workforce skill demands of Arkansas businesses and industries for the twenty-first century.

SECTION 2. Task Force – Membership.

(a) There is created the Twenty-first Century Workforce System Task Force to consist of:

(1) Three (3) members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

(2) Three (3) members of the Senate appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate; and

(3)(A) Eight (8) members to be selected from a list of at least twenty (20) names submitted by the Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce from the following industries:

(i) Energy;

(ii) Manufacturing;

(iii) Agriculture;

(iv) Knowledge-based companies;

(v) Healthcare;

(vi) Transportation;

(vii) Construction; and

(viii) Another industry involved in employing a skilled workforce.

(B) The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall each select (4) persons from the list submitted by the Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce.



(b) The following persons shall be nonvoting members of the task force:

(1) The Director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission or his or her designee;

(2) The President of the Arkansas Science and Technology Authority or his or her designee;

(3) The Director of the Department of Higher Education or his or her designee;

(4) The Director of the Department of Workforce Services or his or her designee;

(5) The Director of the Department of Workforce Education or his or her designee;

(6) The Commissioner of the Department of Education or his or her designee; and

(7) The Director of the Department of Human Services or his or her designee.

(c)(1) The members of the task force shall be appointed by June 30, 2009.

(2) The first meeting shall be called by July 31, 2009.

(d)(1) Members of the task force shall serve at the pleasure of their appointing authorities.

(2) A vacancy on the task force shall be filled by the original appointing authority.

(e)(1) The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall each designate a cochair from among the members of the task force.

(2) The cochairs shall jointly call the first meeting of the task force.

(f) A majority vote of the members present is required for an action of the task force.

(g) The Arkansas Economic Development Commission and the Bureau of Legislative Research shall provide staff support to the task force as necessary to assist the task force in the performance of its duties.

(h) Legislative members of the task force shall be reimbursed for expenses and per diem at the same rate and from the same source as provided by law for members of the General Assembly attending meetings of the interim committees.

SECTION 3. Duties.

The task force shall identify:

(1) All state and federal funding for education, workforce training, and employment programs;

(2) State and federally funded program goals and outcomes;

(3) Potential duplication of programs;

(4) Industry skill gaps;

(5) The organizational structure necessary for an efficient and effective twenty-first century workforce system; and

(6) Other items necessary to ensure the success of the state's workforce training programs.

SECTION 4. Reports.

(a) The task force shall present a report of assessments and

recommendations for meeting the workforce needs in the State of Arkansas to the:

- (1) The House and Senate Interim Committees on:
 - (A) Education; and
 - (B) Agriculture, Forestry, and Economic Development;
 - (2) Governor;
 - (3) Speaker of the House of Representatives;
 - (4) President Pro Tempore of the Senate; and
 - (5) Legislative Council.
- (b) The report shall be submitted on or before October 25, 2010.

SECTION 5. The task force shall expire on December 1, 2010."

The Amendment was read _____
By: Representative English
MAG/CDS - 04-03-2009 11:34
MAG369 _____ Chief Clerk