

1 SB217
2 156907-2
3 By Senator Bussman
4 RFD: Business and Labor
5 First Read: 21-JAN-14

1 SB217

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4 ENROLLED, An Act,

5 Relating to workforce development; to create the
6 Alabama Workforce Council; and to specify membership and
7 duties of the council.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

9 Section 1. The Alabama Workforce Council is hereby
10 created as an appointed group of state business and industry
11 senior managers responsible for advising and supporting the
12 Chancellor of the Alabama Community College System and the
13 Superintendent of the Alabama Department of Education. The
14 Alabama Workforce Council will serve as an advisory body in
15 formulating policies, developing innovative educational
16 workforce programming, and discussing issues critical to the
17 workforce development needs in the State of Alabama.

18 Furthermore, the council will promote, coordinate, and
19 collaborate across prekindergarten-12, two-year colleges,
20 four-year universities, and business and industry.

21 Section 2. The Alabama Workforce Council shall
22 consist of the following members and shall reflect the racial,
23 gender, geographic, urban and rural, and economic diversity of
24 the state:

25 (1) Two members appointed by the Governor.

1 (2) One member appointed by the Lieutenant Governor.

2 (3) One member appointed by the Speaker of the House
3 of Representatives.

4 (4) One member appointed by the President Pro
5 Tempore of the Senate.

6 (5) One member from each of the following 10 regions
7 that comprise the workforce development councils of Alabama
8 appointed by the Governor:

9 a. Region 1: Colbert, Franklin, Lauderdale,
10 Lawrence, Marion, and Winston.

11 b. Region 2: Cullman, DeKalb, Jackson, Limestone,
12 Madison, Marshall, and Morgan.

13 c. Region 3: Bibb, Fayette, Greene, Hale, Lamar,
14 Pickens, Tuscaloosa.

15 d. Region 4: Blount, Chilton, Jefferson, Shelby, St.
16 Clair, and Walker.

17 e. Region 5: Calhoun, Etowah, Cherokee, Clay,
18 Cleburne, Coosa, Randolph, Talladega, and Tallapoosa.

19 f. Region 6: Dallas, Marengo, Perry, Sumter, and
20 Wilcox.

21 g. Region 7: Autauga, Butler, Crenshaw, Elmore,
22 Lowndes, and Montgomery.

23 h. Region 8: Bullock, Chambers, Lee, Macon, and
24 Russell.

1 i. Region 9: Baldwin, Choctaw, Clarke, Conecuh,
2 Escambia, Mobile, Monroe, and Washington.

3 j. Region 10: Barbour, Coffee, Covington, Dale,
4 Geneva, Henry, Houston, and Pike.

5 (6) The Director of the Governor's Office of
6 Workforce Development shall be an ex officio member of the
7 council but shall have no voting rights.

8 (7) The Governor shall have the authority to appoint
9 additional members to the council when necessary.

10 Section 3. The Secretary of Commerce shall be
11 responsible for the administrative functions of the council,
12 including, but not limited to, the organization of meetings,
13 preparing the annual report, and other items as needed by the
14 council.

15 Section 4. The council shall meet within 30 days
16 after the appointment of the council membership and establish
17 procedures and other policies necessary to carry on the
18 business of the council, including the establishment of a
19 quorum. The council shall meet at least twice a year, but may
20 meet more frequently upon the call of the chair. Members of
21 the council may participate in a meeting of the council by
22 means of conference telephone, video conference, or similar
23 communications equipment by means of which all persons
24 participating in the meeting may hear each other at the same
25 time. Participation by such means shall constitute presence in

1 person at a meeting for all purposes, including the
2 establishment of a quorum.

3 Section 5. Members of the council shall serve at the
4 pleasure of the official responsible for designating the
5 members, but in no case shall the term of any member exceed
6 four years. The initial council members shall be appointed for
7 terms from one to four years and shall serve such staggered
8 terms so that one member may be appointed subsequently each
9 year. Vacancies shall be filled in the manner provided for the
10 original appointments. Persons appointed to fill vacancies
11 shall serve the unexpired portions of the terms.

12 Section 6. The council shall report to the Governor,
13 the Legislature, the State Board of Education, and the Alabama
14 Council of College and University Presidents on its advisory
15 recommendations, if any, by January 31 of each year. The
16 council will also meet with the above mentioned groups, if
17 necessary, to discuss the recommendations in the report.

18 Section 7. The members of the council shall not
19 receive a salary or per diem allowance for serving as members
20 of the council, but shall be entitled to reimbursement, from
21 the Department of Commerce for expenses incurred in the
22 performance of the duties of the office at the same rate
23 allowed state employees pursuant to general law.

1 Section 8. The advisory duties and responsibilities
2 of the council shall include, but are not restricted to, the
3 following:

4 (1) Review ways to streamline and align the existing
5 workforce development functions of the state.

6 (2) Evaluate the best way to increase awareness and
7 educate students on available opportunities in industry
8 sectors.

9 (3) Evaluate ways to create a feedback loop for
10 industry and education.

11 (4) Evaluate private/public partnerships to create
12 industry-funded scholarship programs for community colleges,
13 vocational programs, and dual enrollment programs.

14 (5) Evaluate the value of increasing the marketing
15 associated with career readiness and skilled craft trades.

16 (6) Evaluate the standards for membership and
17 operations to the existing 10 regional workforce development
18 councils.

19 (7) Evaluate and make recommendations to realign the
20 counties that comprise a regional council, as required to meet
21 the needs of employers.

22 Section 9. This act shall become effective on the
23 first day of the third month following its passage and
24 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Representatives

SB217

Senate 23-JAN-14

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and passed the Senate.

Patrick Harris
Secretary

House of Representatives
Amended and passed 12-FEB-14

Senate concurred in House amendment 13-FEB-14

By: Senator Bussman