

By: Solomons

H.B. No. 2171

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the continuation of the Council on Workforce and Economic Competitiveness as the Texas Workforce Investment Council and to the functions performed by the council.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

ARTICLE 1. CONTINUATION AS TEXAS WORKFORCE

INVESTMENT COUNCIL

SECTION 1.01. The heading of Chapter 2308, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

CHAPTER 2308. WORKFORCE INVESTMENT [~~AND ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS~~] ACT

SECTION 1.02. Section 2308.001, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 2308.001. SHORT TITLE. This chapter may be cited as the Workforce Investment [~~and Economic Competitiveness~~] Act.

SECTION 1.03. Section 2308.002(1), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(1) "Council" means the Texas Workforce Investment Council [~~on Workforce and Economic Competitiveness~~].

SECTION 1.04. Section 2308.005, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 2308.005. APPLICATION OF SUNSET ACT. The Texas Workforce Investment Council [~~on Workforce and Economic Competitiveness~~] is subject to Chapter 325 (Texas Sunset Act).

1 Unless continued in existence as provided by that chapter, the
2 council is abolished September 1, 2015 [~~2003~~].

3 SECTION 1.05. Section 2308.006(a), Government Code, is
4 amended to read as follows:

5 (a) If a change in law made by House Bill 3431, Acts of the
6 76th Legislature, Regular Session, 1999, would have the effect of
7 invalidating an exemption granted under the Workforce Investment
8 Act of 1998 (Pub. L. No. 105-220), the Texas Workforce Investment
9 Council [~~on Workforce and Economic Competitiveness~~] may not operate
10 under that change in law but, instead, shall operate under the law
11 as it existed before September 1, 1999 [~~the effective date of this~~
12 ~~Act~~].

13 ARTICLE 2. COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP AND TRAINING

14 SECTION 2.01. Section 2308.052, Government Code, is amended
15 by amending Subsections (b) and (c) and adding Subsection (e) to
16 read as follows:

17 (b) The council is composed of:

18 (1) three voting members who represent education, one
19 of whom represents local public education, one of whom represents
20 public postsecondary education, and one of whom represents
21 vocational education;

22 (2) five voting members who represent organized labor
23 appointed from recommendations made by recognized labor
24 organizations;

25 (3) five voting members who represent business and
26 industry, including business members serving on local workforce
27 development boards or private industry councils;

1 (4) two voting members who represent community-based
2 organizations; and

3 (5) the following ex officio voting members:

4 (A) the commissioner of education [~~chair of the~~
5 ~~State Board of Education~~];

6 (B) the commissioner of higher education [~~chair~~
7 ~~of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board~~];

8 (C) the commissioner of human services
9 [~~presiding officer of the Texas Board of Human Services~~];

10 (D) the executive director [~~presiding officer of~~
11 ~~the policy advisory board~~] of the Texas Department of Economic
12 Development; and

13 (E) the executive director [~~chair~~] of the Texas
14 Workforce Commission.

15 (c) The membership of the council must represent the [~~ethnic~~
16 ~~and~~] geographic diversity of this state.

17 (e) Appointments to the council shall be made without regard
18 to the race, color, disability, sex, religion, age, or national
19 origin of the appointees.

20 SECTION 2.02. Section 2308.053(a), Government Code, is
21 amended to read as follows:

22 (a) The governor shall designate one of the business or
23 labor representatives on the council [~~to serve~~] as the presiding
24 officer of the council to serve in that capacity at the pleasure of
25 the governor.

26 SECTION 2.03. Sections 2308.056(a) and (c), Government
27 Code, are amended to read as follows:

1 (a) It is a ground for removal from the council that a member
2 who is not an ex officio member:

3 (1) does not have at the time of appointment the
4 qualifications required by Section 2308.052;

5 (2) does not maintain during service on the council
6 the qualifications required by Section 2308.052;

7 (3) cannot, because of illness or disability,
8 discharge the member's duties for a substantial part of the member's
9 term [~~for which the member is appointed because of illness or~~
10 ~~disability~~];

11 (4) is absent from more than one-fourth of the
12 regularly scheduled council meetings that the member is eligible to
13 attend during a calendar year without an excuse approved by a
14 majority vote of the council's members; or

15 (5) is absent from two consecutive council meetings
16 for which the member received notice not less than 48 hours before
17 the time of the meeting.

18 (c) If the executive director has knowledge that a potential
19 ground for removal exists, the executive director shall notify the
20 presiding officer of the council of the ground. The presiding
21 officer shall then notify the governor and the attorney general
22 that a potential ground for removal exists. If the potential ground
23 for removal involves the presiding officer, the executive director
24 shall notify the next highest ranking officer of the council, who
25 shall then notify the governor and the attorney general that a
26 potential ground for removal exists.

27 SECTION 2.04. Section 2308.158, Government Code, is amended

1 to read as follows:

2 Sec. 2308.158. COUNCIL TRAINING; STANDARDS OF CONDUCT
3 INFORMATION. (a) A person who is appointed to and qualifies for
4 office as a council member may not vote, deliberate, or be counted
5 as a member in attendance at a meeting of the council until the
6 person completes a training program that complies with this
7 section.

8 (b) The training program must provide the person with
9 information regarding:

- 10 (1) the legislation that created the council;
11 (2) the programs operated by the council;
12 (3) the role and functions of the council;
13 (4) the rules of the council, with an emphasis on the
14 rules that relate to disciplinary and investigatory authority;
15 (5) the current budget for the council;
16 (6) the results of the most recent formal audit of the
17 council;
18 (7) the requirements of:
19 (A) the open meetings law, Chapter 551;
20 (B) the public information law, Chapter 552;
21 (C) the administrative procedure law, Chapter
22 2001; and
23 (D) other laws relating to public officials,
24 including conflict-of-interest laws; and
25 (8) any applicable ethics policies adopted by the
26 council or the Texas Ethics Commission.

27 (c) Each council member shall comply with the member

1 training requirements established by any other state agency that is
2 given authority to establish the requirements for the council.

3 (d) [~~(b)~~] The executive director shall provide to the
4 council's members and employees, as often as necessary, information
5 regarding the requirements [~~their qualifications~~] for office or
6 employment under this chapter, including information regarding a
7 person's [~~and their~~] responsibilities under applicable laws
8 relating to standards of conduct for state officers and employees.

9 SECTION 2.05. As soon as practicable after the effective
10 date of this Act, the ex officio voting members of the Texas
11 Workforce Investment Council described by Section 2308.052(b),
12 Government Code, as amended by this article, shall begin to serve on
13 the council.

14 SECTION 2.06. The changes in law made by this article in the
15 prohibitions or qualifications applying to members of the Texas
16 Workforce Investment Council do not affect the entitlement of a
17 member serving on the council immediately before September 1, 2003,
18 to continue to serve and function as a member of the council for the
19 remainder of the member's term. Those changes in law apply only to
20 a member appointed on or after September 1, 2003.

21 ARTICLE 3. COUNCIL DUTIES

22 SECTION 3.01. Section 2308.101, Government Code, is amended
23 by adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

24 (c) The members of the council shall develop and implement
25 policies that:

26 (1) clearly separate:

27 (A) the policy-making responsibilities of the

1 members of the council; and

2 (B) the management responsibilities of the
3 executive director and the staff of the council; and

4 (2) provide the public with a reasonable opportunity
5 to appear before the council and to speak on any issue under the
6 jurisdiction of the council.

7 SECTION 3.02. Subchapter C, Chapter 2308, Government Code,
8 is amended by adding Section 2308.1015 to read as follows:

9 Sec. 2308.1015. DUTY TO FACILITATE DELIVERY OF INTEGRATED
10 WORKFORCE SERVICES. (a) To facilitate the seamless delivery of
11 integrated workforce services in this state, the council shall:

12 (1) evaluate programs administered by agencies
13 represented on the council to identify:

14 (A) any duplication of or gaps in the services
15 provided by those programs; and

16 (B) any other problems that adversely affect the
17 seamless delivery of those services; and

18 (2) develop and implement immediate and long-range
19 strategies to address problems identified by the council under
20 Subdivision (1).

21 (b) The council shall include in the council's annual report
22 to the governor and to the legislature:

23 (1) a list of specific problems identified by the
24 council under Subsection (a) to be addressed by the council in the
25 following year; and

26 (2) the results of any measures taken by the council to
27 address problems identified by the council under Subsection (a).

1 (c) The long-range strategies developed by the council
2 under Subsection (a) must:

3 (1) identify each agency represented on the council
4 that is responsible for implementing each strategy; and

5 (2) include a time frame for the implementation of
6 each strategy.

7 SECTION 3.03. Section 2308.104, Government Code, is amended
8 by adding Subsection (h) to read as follows:

9 (h) The council shall include in the strategic plan
10 long-range strategies developed by the council under Section
11 2308.1015 to facilitate the seamless delivery of integrated
12 workforce services in this state.

13 SECTION 3.04. Subchapter C, Chapter 2308, Government Code,
14 is amended by adding Sections 2308.107 and 2308.108 to read as
15 follows:

16 Sec. 2308.107. COMPLAINTS AGAINST COUNCIL. (a) The
17 council shall maintain a file on each written complaint filed with
18 the council. The file must include:

19 (1) the name of the person who filed the complaint;
20 (2) the date the complaint is received by the council;
21 (3) the subject matter of the complaint;
22 (4) the name of each person contacted in relation to
23 the complaint;

24 (5) a summary of the results of the review or
25 investigation of the complaint; and

26 (6) an explanation of the reason the file was closed,
27 if the council closed the file without taking action other than to

1 investigate the complaint.

2 (b) The council shall provide to the person filing the
3 complaint and to each person who is a subject of the complaint a
4 copy of the council's policies and procedures relating to complaint
5 investigation and resolution.

6 (c) The council, at least quarterly until final disposition
7 of the complaint, shall notify the person filing the complaint and
8 each person who is a subject of the complaint of the status of the
9 investigation unless the notice would jeopardize an undercover
10 investigation.

11 Sec. 2308.108. POLICY ON TECHNOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS. The
12 members of the council shall develop and implement a policy
13 requiring the executive director and council employees to research
14 and propose appropriate technological solutions to improve the
15 council's ability to perform its functions. The technological
16 solutions must:

17 (1) ensure that:

18 (A) the public is able to easily find information
19 about the council on the Internet; and

20 (B) persons who want to use the council's
21 services are able to:

22 (i) interact with the council through the
23 Internet; and

24 (ii) access any service that can be
25 provided effectively through the Internet;

26 (2) be cost-effective; and

27 (3) be developed through the council's planning

1 processes.

2 SECTION 3.05. Subchapter D, Chapter 2308, Government Code,
3 is amended by adding Section 2308.159 to read as follows:

4 Sec. 2308.159. STATE EMPLOYEE INCENTIVE PROGRAM
5 INFORMATION AND TRAINING. The executive director or the executive
6 director's designee shall provide to council employees information
7 and training on the benefits and methods of participation in the
8 state employee incentive program.

9 SECTION 3.06. The Texas Workforce Investment Council shall
10 implement Sections 2308.101, 2308.1015, 2308.104, 2308.108, and
11 2308.159, Government Code, as amended or added by this article, not
12 later than February 1, 2004.

13 SECTION 3.07. Section 2308.107, Government Code, as added
14 by this article, applies only to a written complaint filed with the
15 Texas Workforce Investment Council on or after the effective date
16 of this Act, regardless of whether the conduct or act that is the
17 subject of the complaint occurred or was committed before, on, or
18 after the effective date of this Act.

19 ARTICLE 4. TRANSFER OF MAINTENANCE OF WORKFORCE

20 DEVELOPMENT EVALUATION SYSTEM FROM COUNCIL TO

21 TEXAS WORKFORCE COMMISSION

22 SECTION 4.01. The heading of Section 2308.151, Government
23 Code, is amended to read as follows:

24 Sec. 2308.151. ESTABLISHMENT OF FUNDING FORMULA FOR
25 EVALUATION SYSTEM~~[, FUNDING]~~.

26 SECTION 4.02. Section 2308.151(c), Government Code, is
27 amended to read as follows:

1 ~~[(c)]~~ The council shall establish, with the approval of the
2 governor, a funding formula to determine the level of support each
3 agency administering a workforce program must provide to operate
4 the automated follow-up and evaluation system administered by the
5 Texas Workforce Commission under Subchapter E, Chapter 302, Labor
6 Code ~~[required by this section]~~.

7 SECTION 4.03. Chapter 302, Labor Code, is amended by adding
8 Subchapter E to read as follows:

9 SUBCHAPTER E. WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT EVALUATION SYSTEM

10 Sec. 302.081. MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION OF WORKFORCE
11 DEVELOPMENT EVALUATION SYSTEM. (a) The commission shall maintain
12 and operate an automated follow-up and evaluation system derived
13 from appropriate available information, including:

14 (1) unemployment insurance wage records maintained by
15 the commission; and

16 (2) student follow-up information available through
17 the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

18 (b) The agencies represented on the council shall fund the
19 maintenance and operation of the evaluation system by using funds
20 available to the agencies for evaluation of each agency's workforce
21 development programs.

22 Sec. 302.082. INFORMATION AND DATA FOR EVALUATION SYSTEM.

23 (a) Each state agency represented on the council shall provide
24 information to support the commission's follow-up and evaluation
25 system as requested.

26 (b) Evaluation data in the system must include:

27 (1) placement rates;

- 1 (2) wages paid;
- 2 (3) retention in employment statistics;
- 3 (4) the number of education and training-related
- 4 placements; and
- 5 (5) other appropriate factors, including public
- 6 welfare dependency and the pursuit of additional education.

7 (c) The commission may develop a method for collecting
8 occupational information to supplement wage record information
9 collected by the commission. The commission may request employers,
10 providers, and other appropriate sources to provide placement,
11 employment, and earnings information to the commission.

12 Sec. 302.083. ANALYSIS. (a) At least annually, the
13 commission shall issue an analysis, by occupation and by the
14 provider of the job placement performance, of each workforce
15 development program for the previous one-year, three-year, and
16 five-year periods to:

- 17 (1) each provider of workforce education or workforce
- 18 training and services;
- 19 (2) the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for
- 20 each provider of workforce education approved and administered by
- 21 the coordinating board;
- 22 (3) each local workforce development board for each
- 23 provider of workforce training and services in the workforce
- 24 development area; and
- 25 (4) the division.

26 (b) The commission shall post each analysis issued under
27 Subsection (a) on the commission's Internet website in a format

1 that is readily accessible to and understandable by a member of the
2 public.

3 Sec. 302.084. USE BY TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING
4 BOARD. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall use the
5 job placement information received under this subchapter and other
6 information to:

7 (1) evaluate the effectiveness of workforce
8 education;

9 (2) determine whether a public or private workforce
10 education program is effective in placing persons who successfully
11 complete the program in jobs related to the persons' training; and

12 (3) determine whether to continue, expand, or
13 terminate a program established under Section 61.051, Education
14 Code.

15 Sec. 302.085. USE BY COUNCIL AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
16 BOARD. The council and each local workforce development board
17 shall use the information developed under this subchapter and other
18 information to determine whether a specific workforce training and
19 services program administered by or funded by the local board is
20 effective and whether to continue the training and services
21 program.

22 Sec. 302.086. USE OF EVALUATION SYSTEM. The follow-up and
23 evaluation system shall be used to assist the council, local
24 workforce development boards, institution boards, the Texas Higher
25 Education Coordinating Board, the Texas Education Agency, and other
26 agencies in evaluating the labor market success and effectiveness
27 of workforce development in this state.

1 SECTION 4.04. As soon as practicable after the effective
2 date of this Act, the Texas Workforce Investment Council shall
3 transfer all records and information relating to the maintenance
4 and operation of the workforce development evaluation system to the
5 Texas Workforce Commission.

6 ARTICLE 5. REPEALER

7 SECTION 5.01. Sections 2308.151(a) and (b), Government
8 Code, are repealed.

9 SECTION 5.02. Sections 2308.152-2308.156, Government Code,
10 are repealed.

11 ARTICLE 6. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS

12 SECTION 6.01. Section 19.011, Education Code, is amended to
13 read as follows:

14 Sec. 19.011. COORDINATION WITH OTHER STATE AGENCIES. (a)
15 In order to achieve the goals stated in Section 19.003, the district
16 with the cooperation of the Health and Human Services Commission,
17 the Texas Workforce Investment Council [~~on Workforce and Economic~~
18 ~~Competitiveness~~], the Texas Department of Economic Development
19 [~~Commerce~~], and the department shall provide persons confined or
20 imprisoned in the department:

21 (1) information from local workforce and development
22 boards on job training and employment referral services; and

23 (2) information on the tax refund voucher program
24 under Subchapter H [~~D~~], Chapter 301 [~~31~~], Labor [~~Human Resources~~]
25 Code[, ~~and~~

26 [~~(3) information on the smart jobs fund program~~].

27 (b) The district may coordinate vocational education and

1 job training programs with a local workforce development board
2 authorized by the Texas Workforce Investment Council [~~on Workforce~~
3 ~~and Economic Competitiveness~~].

4 SECTION 6.02. Section 30.103, Education Code, is amended
5 to read as follows:

6 Sec. 30.103. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING. The Texas Youth
7 Commission with the assistance of the Texas Workforce [~~Employment~~
8 Commission and the Texas Workforce Investment Council [~~on Workforce~~
9 ~~and Economic Competitiveness~~] shall by rule adopt a memorandum of
10 understanding that establishes the respective responsibility of
11 those entities to provide through local workforce development
12 boards job training and employment assistance programs to children
13 committed or formerly sentenced to the Texas Youth Commission. The
14 Texas Youth Commission shall coordinate the development of the
15 memorandum of understanding and include in its annual report
16 information describing the number of children in the preceding year
17 receiving services under the memorandum.

18 SECTION 6.03. Section 61.051(f), Education Code, is amended
19 to read as follows:

20 (f) The board shall encourage and develop new certificate
21 programs in technical and vocational education in Texas public
22 technical institutes and public community colleges as the needs of
23 technology and industry may demand and shall recommend the
24 elimination of such programs for which a need no longer exists. The
25 board shall conduct a review of the certificate programs at least
26 every four years or on the request of the Texas Workforce Investment
27 Council [~~on Workforce and Economic Competitiveness~~] and shall

1 terminate a program that does not meet performance review standards
2 and other criteria established by the board. The board shall assume
3 the leadership role and administrative responsibilities for state
4 level administration of postsecondary technical-vocational
5 education programs in Texas public community colleges, public
6 technical institutes, and other eligible public postsecondary
7 institutions. The board shall ensure that standardized minimum
8 technical and skill-specific competency and performance standards
9 for each workforce education program, as developed by the Texas
10 Workforce Investment Council [~~on Workforce and Economic~~
11 ~~Competitiveness~~], are used in the board's review, approval, or
12 disapproval of a vocational and technical program financed by state
13 and federal funds.

14 SECTION 6.04. Section 61.077, Education Code, is amended to
15 read as follows:

16 Sec. 61.077. JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE. (a) A joint
17 advisory committee shall advise the Texas Higher Education
18 Coordinating Board and the State Board of Education in coordinating
19 postsecondary career and technology activities, career and
20 technology teacher education programs offered or proposed to be
21 offered in the colleges and universities of this state, and other
22 relevant matters, including those listed in Section 61.076 of this
23 code. The committee shall be composed of three members from the
24 State Board of Education[7] appointed by the chair [~~chairman~~]
25 the board, [~~and~~] three members from the Texas Higher Education
26 Coordinating Board[7] appointed by the chairman of the board, one
27 member designated by the presiding officer of the Texas Workforce

1 Investment Council [~~on Workforce and Economic Competitiveness~~],
2 and one member representing business designated by the chair of the
3 Texas Partnership for Economic Development. A member of the board
4 shall be designated as chairman of the joint advisory committee by
5 the chairman of the board. The committee shall hold regular annual
6 meetings as called by the chairman.

7 (b) The purposes of this committee shall include the
8 following:

9 (1) to advise the two boards on the coordination of
10 postsecondary career and technology education and the articulation
11 between postsecondary career and technology education and
12 secondary career and technology education;

13 (2) to facilitate the transfer of responsibilities for
14 the administration of postsecondary career and technology
15 education from the State Board of Education to the board in
16 accordance with Section 111(a)(I) of the Carl D. Perkins Vocational
17 Education Act, Public Law 98-524;

18 (3) to advise the State Board of Education, when it
19 acts as the State Board for Career and Technology Education, on the
20 following:

21 (A) the transfer of federal funds to the board
22 for allotment to eligible public postsecondary institutions of
23 higher education;

24 (B) the career and technology education funding
25 for projects and institutions as determined by the board when the
26 State Board for Career and Technology Education is required by
27 federal law to endorse such determinations;

1 (C) the development and updating of the state
2 plan for career and technology education and the evaluation of
3 programs, services, and activities of postsecondary career and
4 technology education and such amendments to the state plan for
5 career and technology education as may relate to postsecondary
6 education;

7 (D) other matters related to postsecondary
8 career and technology education; and

9 (E) the coordination of curricula, instructional
10 programs, research, and other functions as appropriate, including
11 areas listed in Section 61.076 of this code, school-to-work and
12 school-to-college transition programs, and professional
13 development activities; and

14 (4) to advise the Texas Workforce Investment Council
15 [~~on Workforce and Economic Competitiveness~~] on educational policy
16 issues related to workforce preparation.

17 SECTION 6.05. Sections 76.014(a) and (c), Government Code,
18 are amended to read as follows:

19 (a) A department, with the assistance of the Texas Workforce
20 Commission, the Texas Workforce Investment Council [~~on Workforce~~
21 ~~and Economic Competitiveness~~], local workforce development boards,
22 and other appropriate public and private entities, may establish a
23 developmental program for a defendant under the supervision of the
24 department on the basis of information obtained in the presentence
25 investigation report prepared for the defendant.

26 (c) To decrease expenditures by departments for the
27 educational and vocational skills assessment and enhancement

1 program established under this section, the Texas Department of
2 Economic Development [~~Commerce~~] shall provide information to
3 departments, the Texas Workforce Commission, the Texas Workforce
4 Investment Council [~~on Workforce and Economic Competitiveness~~],
5 local workforce development boards, and other appropriate public
6 and private entities for obtaining financial assistance through
7 programs under Chapter 301, Labor Code, and other applicable
8 programs of public or private entities.

9 SECTION 6.06. Section 481.168(a), Government Code, is
10 amended to read as follows:

11 (a) The attorney general, the comptroller, the Texas
12 Department of Economic Development, and the Texas Workforce
13 Investment Council [~~on Workforce and Economic Competitiveness~~]
14 shall:

15 (1) conduct a survey of tax incentive laws and
16 economic development laws enacted in other states since 1990; and

17 (2) deliver to the governor, the lieutenant governor,
18 and the speaker of the house of representatives a joint report of
19 the results of the survey.

20 SECTION 6.07. Section 497.094(b), Government Code, is
21 amended to read as follows:

22 (b) The department and the Texas Workforce Investment
23 Council [~~on Workforce and Economic Competitiveness~~] by rule shall
24 adopt a memorandum of understanding that establishes the respective
25 responsibility of those entities to provide through local workforce
26 development boards job training and employment assistance to
27 persons formerly sentenced to the institutional division or the

1 state jail division and information on services available to
2 employers or potential employers of those persons. The department
3 shall coordinate the development of the memorandum of
4 understanding.

5 SECTION 6.08. Section 31.0126(f), Human Resources Code, is
6 amended to read as follows:

7 (f) In this section, a "local workforce development board"
8 means a local workforce development board created under Chapter
9 2308, Government Code [~~Section 4.01, Workforce and Economic~~
10 ~~Competitiveness Act (Article 5190.7a, Vernon's Texas Civil~~
11 ~~Statutes)]~~.

12 SECTION 6.09. Sections 301.001(d)(3) and (6), Labor Code,
13 are amended to read as follows:

14 (3) "Council" means the Texas Workforce Investment
15 Council [~~on Workforce and Economic Competitiveness~~].

16 (6) "Local workforce development board" means an
17 entity formed under Chapter 2308, Government Code [~~Section 4.01,~~
18 ~~Workforce and Economic Competitiveness Act (Article 5190.7a,~~
19 ~~Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes)]~~.

20 SECTION 6.10. Sections 306.007(a) and (b), Labor Code, are
21 amended to read as follows:

22 (a) To assist in the reintegration into the labor force of
23 persons formerly sentenced to the institutional division or the
24 state jail division, the commission through Project RIO shall
25 provide:

26 (1) to those persons:

27 (A) information from local workforce development

1 boards on job training and employment referral services;

2 (B) information from the Texas Commission on
3 Alcohol and Drug Abuse on substance abuse treatment services;

4 (C) information from the Texas Department of
5 Housing and Community Affairs on housing services;

6 (D) information from the Texas Veterans
7 Commission on services for veterans; and

8 (E) information [~~from the Texas Department of~~
9 ~~Human Services~~] on tax refund voucher programs under Subchapter H
10 [~~D~~], Chapter 301 [~~31, Human Resources Code~~]; and

11 (2) to the employers and potential employers of those
12 persons:

13 (A) information from the Texas Department of
14 Economic Development [~~Commerce~~] on the enterprise zone program [~~and~~
15 ~~smart jobs fund program~~]; and

16 (B) information from local workforce development
17 boards on services listed in Section 2308.304, Government Code.

18 (b) The commission shall adopt a memorandum of
19 understanding with each of the following agencies that establishes
20 the respective responsibilities of the commission and the agencies
21 in providing information described by Subsection (a) to persons
22 formerly sentenced to the institutional division or the state jail
23 division of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, to employers
24 or potential employers of those persons, and to local workforce
25 development boards:

26 (1) the Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse;

27 (2) the Texas Department of Housing and Community

1 Affairs;

2 (3) the Texas Veterans Commission;

3 (4) the Texas Department of Human Services;

4 (5) the Texas Department of Economic Development
5 [~~Commerce~~]; and

6 (6) the Texas Workforce Investment Council [~~on~~
7 ~~Workforce and Economic Competitiveness~~].

8 SECTION 6.11. Section 313.025(c), Tax Code, is amended to
9 read as follows:

10 (c) In determining whether to grant an application, the
11 governing body of the school district is entitled to request and
12 receive assistance from:

13 (1) the comptroller;

14 (2) the Texas Department of Economic Development;

15 (3) the Texas Workforce Investment Council [~~on~~
16 ~~Workforce and Economic Competitiveness~~]; and

17 (4) the Texas Workforce Commission.

18 ARTICLE 7. TRANSITION PROVISIONS; EFFECTIVE DATE

19 SECTION 7.01. The name of the Council on Workforce and
20 Economic Competitiveness is changed to the Texas Workforce
21 Investment Council. Any reference in law to the Council on
22 Workforce and Economic Competitiveness means the Texas Workforce
23 Investment Council.

24 SECTION 7.02. All appropriations made by the legislature
25 for the use and benefit of the Council on Workforce and Economic
26 Competitiveness are available for the use and benefit of the Texas
27 Workforce Investment Council.

1 SECTION 7.03. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.