

By: VanDeaver

H.B. No. 3511

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the creation of the Commission on Texas Workforce of the Future.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 29, Education Code, is amended by adding Subchapter Z-1 to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER Z-1. COMMISSION ON TEXAS WORKFORCE OF THE FUTURE

Sec. 29.951. DEFINITION. In this subchapter, "commission" means the Commission on Texas Workforce of the Future.

Sec. 29.952. COMMISSION ON TEXAS WORKFORCE OF THE FUTURE.

(a) The Commission on Texas Workforce of the Future is established to engage business, state agencies, and local workforce system partners in the efforts of state and local authorities to build the state's workforce talent pipeline.

(b) The commission members shall provide reliable and accurate data pertinent to college and career readiness, industry-based workforce credentials, associate and bachelor's degree programs, and high-demand industry jobs and careers.

(c) The commission is composed of 17 members as follows:

- (1) five members appointed by the governor;
- (2) four members appointed by the lieutenant governor;
- (3) four members appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives;
- (4) the commissioner of higher education or the

1 commissioner's designee;

2 (5) a commissioner of the Texas Workforce Commission  
3 appointed by the chair of the Texas Workforce Commission, or the  
4 commissioner's designee;

5 (6) the commissioner or the commissioner's designee;  
6 and

7 (7) the chair of the Texas Economic Development  
8 Corporation.

9 (d) The members appointed by the governor must have an  
10 interest in the future of the state's workforce. In appointing the  
11 members, the governor shall consider appointing a business leader  
12 representing each of the following industries:

13 (1) oil and gas;

14 (2) technology and manufacturing;

15 (3) health care;

16 (4) construction; and

17 (5) petrochemicals.

18 (e) The appointments made by the lieutenant governor must  
19 include:

20 (1) two members of the senate;

21 (2) an administrator in the public school system or an  
22 elected member of the board of trustees of a school district; and

23 (3) an administrator of a four-year public institution  
24 of higher education.

25 (f) The appointments made by the speaker of the house of  
26 representatives must include:

27 (1) two members of the house of representatives;

1           (2) an administrator in the public school system or an  
2 elected member of the board of trustees of a school district; and

3           (3) an administrator of a public junior college.

4           (g) In making appointments under Subsection (c), the  
5 governor, the lieutenant governor, and the speaker of the house of  
6 representatives shall coordinate to ensure that the members they  
7 appoint reflect, to the extent possible, the ethnic and geographic  
8 diversity of this state.

9           Sec. 29.953. PRESIDING OFFICER. The governor shall  
10 designate the presiding officer of the commission. The presiding  
11 officer must be a business executive.

12           Sec. 29.954. COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENT. A member of  
13 the commission is not entitled to compensation for service on the  
14 commission but is entitled to reimbursement for actual and  
15 necessary expenses incurred in performing commission duties.

16           Sec. 29.955. ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT AND FUNDING. (a)  
17 Staff members of the agency shall provide administrative support  
18 for the commission.

19           (b) Funding for the administrative and operational expenses  
20 of the commission shall be provided by appropriation to the agency.

21           Sec. 29.956. RECOMMENDATIONS. (a) The commission shall  
22 develop recommendations under this subchapter to address issues  
23 related to workforce development and the future of the state's  
24 workforce, including:

25           (1) strengthening and supporting industry-led  
26 public-private partnerships that connect people with careers and  
27 match employers with skilled talent;

1           (2) improving regional coordination and alignment  
2 between industry, the public workforce system, higher education  
3 institutions, public schools, and community-based organizations to  
4 create college and career pathways that lead to good jobs;

5           (3) attracting, educating, developing, and placing  
6 workers in high-demand industry sectors;

7           (4) addressing the current and future skills gap  
8 across the state economy and identifying statewide initiatives to  
9 enhance cross-sector collaboration, communication, and alignment;

10           (5) identifying incentives to encourage cooperation  
11 between sectors that fosters innovative approaches to meet the  
12 current and future workforce demands; and

13           (6) recommending statutory changes to the laws  
14 governing the public workforce system, public education, and higher  
15 education to enhance career path options and ensure long-term  
16 collaboration with industry.

17           (b) The commission may establish one or more work groups  
18 composed of not more than five members of the commission to study,  
19 discuss, and address specific policy issues and recommendations to  
20 refer to the commission for consideration. In establishing a work  
21 group under this subsection, the commission shall ensure that the  
22 membership of the work group includes at least two representatives  
23 from the business community.

24           Sec. 29.957. REPORT. Not later than December 31, 2020, the  
25 commission shall prepare and deliver a report to the governor and  
26 the legislature that includes recommendations for statutory and  
27 regulatory changes to enhance workforce development and

1 coordination and alignment between industry, public education, and  
2 higher education, including any adjustments to college and career  
3 pathway programs.

4 Sec. 29.958. PUBLIC MEETINGS AND PUBLIC INFORMATION. (a)  
5 The commission may hold public meetings as needed to fulfill the  
6 commission's duties under this subchapter.

7 (b) The commission is subject to Chapters 551 and 552,  
8 Government Code.

9 Sec. 29.959. COMMISSION ABOLISHED; EXPIRATION OF  
10 SUBCHAPTER. The commission is abolished and this subchapter  
11 expires January 12, 2021.

12 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.