88R1201 RDS-F

By:  Hinojosa S.B. No. 236

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to participation of the members of the Texas Workforce Commission in certain functions of the Tri-Agency Workforce Initiative.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 2308A.004, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 2308A.004.  QUARTERLY DISCUSSIONS. The commissioner of education, commissioner of higher education, and all three members [~~chair~~] of the commission shall discuss the work of the initiative at least once per quarter.

SECTION 2.  Sections 2308A.006(a), (d), and (e), Government Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a)  The commissioner of education, commissioner of higher education, and all three members [~~chair~~] of the commission jointly shall develop and post in a prominent location on the initiative's and each respective agency's Internet website state workforce development goals and coordinated interagency strategies for achieving those goals.

(d)  In consultation with employers, the commissioner of education, commissioner of higher education, and all three members [~~chair~~] of the commission jointly shall update the state workforce development goals and strategies developed under Subsection (a) at least every four years, or more frequently if needed to reflect available data and circumstances.

(e)  In consultation with employers, the commissioner of education, commissioner of higher education, and all three members [~~chair~~] of the commission shall designate and update every two years a list of career pathways that includes the following two priority categories:

(1)  target occupations, which include current needs that exist in one or more regions of the state as reflected in regional workforce assessments that:

(A)  use the best available data and local employer requests; and

(B)  satisfy minimum federal standards for designations, such as a foundation for qualified use of federal workforce funding; and

(2)  critical career pathways that reflect the best statewide data and forecasts of skills and careers for which demand in the state is expected to grow that may:

(A)  be associated with new emerging industries or new specialty occupations within an industry; or

(B)  reflect pathways to better wages for workers with documented skills that provide promotional opportunities within or across occupations with targeted upskill training.

SECTION 3.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.