ENROLLED
COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR
H. B. 4019
(By Mr. Speaker, Mr. Chambers, and Delegate Burk)
[By Request of the Executive]

[Passed March 12, 199[; in effect from passage.]

AN ACT to amend chapter five of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, by adding thereto a new article, designated article twenty-three, relating to creation of a governor's work force development council.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That chapter five of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a new article, designated article twenty-three, to read as follows:

ARTICLE 23. GOVERNOR'S WORK FORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL.

§5-23-1. Governor's work force development council created; legislative findings; purpose of council; quarterly reports; conclusion of work.

(a) The Legislature finds that new technologies, production processes and management structures are redefining skill needs in the work place from narrow, mindless, repetitive duties to knowing how to learn, perform multiple duties, communicate, perform effectively as part of a work team, think creatively and solve
problems. These changes have profound significance for both our traditional educational systems and our systems for upgrading the skills of the existing work force. An estimated seventy-five percent of the work force in the year two thousand will consist of persons who are already in the work force. However, over one-quarter of West Virginians between the ages of eighteen and sixty-four do not have a high school diploma and nearly two-thirds have less than two years of postsecondary education. The association between skills and opportunity for individual Americans is powerful and growing. Individuals with poor skills are faced with low earnings and limited choices. West Virginia must develop an evolving education and job training system that helps West Virginians become economically self-sufficient and competitive through a continued lifelong learning process. West Virginia currently spends a significant amount of state and federal dollars on education and training programs, but such programs are spread over several different agencies in several different departments. The opportunities for slippage, service gaps and mismatch in the educational continuum required for gaining and maintaining competitive work force skills are unsatisfactory. West Virginia must look to improvements in its current efforts in developing the needed lifelong learning system.

The Legislature further finds that West Virginia lacks a work force development system which is adequately responsive to the needs of employers seeking to start, expand or improve the competitiveness of their enterprises in the state through measures which include appropriate education and training programs to improve the competitiveness of their work force.

(b) Therefore, the governor's work force development council is hereby created to develop and implement a plan of action to address the findings set forth in this section. At a minimum, such plan of action shall accomplish the following:

(1) Common core competencies and competency certificates for all education and training programs which are based on universal and transferable work
place skill requirements and will serve as a warranty
to employers that the worker possesses the core work
place skills needed to be an effective employee;

(2) Strong linkages between public education, higher
education, and the wide range of state job training
programs to ensure that West Virginians receive the
maximum benefit from work force development resour-
ces and maintain sufficient options to pursue their
career goals;

(3) Strong coordination with state, local and regional
economic development strategies and the work force
needs of employers to ensure that work force develop-
ment programs lead to viable employment opportuni-
ties, including curricular and programmatic flexibility
to ensure that instructional programs will be easily and
routinely modified, added and eliminated to reflect
changing work force skill requirements and job
opportunities;

(4) Client focused service delivery which provides easy
access for individuals and businesses to appropriate,
professional, nonstigmatizing work force education and
training assistance which helps them achieve their goals
as quickly as possible;

(5) Modification, consolidation or elimination of
conflicting, duplicative and unnecessary work force
development programs, delivery systems and adminis-
tration, including any areas in which federal program
waivers are needed to improve service delivery; and

(6) Designation of those communities that have
developed integrated workforce development systems as
work force ready zones;

(7) Easy access to information for individuals and
businesses relating to available options and all education
and jobs training programs available within a commu-

(8) Analysis of the relationship between available
training and available jobs;
(9) For each vocation or job training program receiving state or federal funding, an unduplicated count of the numbers of persons served by each such program, and an unduplicated count of persons successfully completing training, the cost of training and the numbers of persons entering employment within one year of completing training;

(10) Analysis of the geographical distribution of existing programs classified by the type of training offered and by the entity offering the training; and

(11) Other initiatives for workforce development, which may include mobile technology training centers.

(c) The governor's work force development council shall be composed of the governor, who shall be the chair of the council, or the governor's chief of staff serving as the governor's designee; the secretary of commerce, labor and environmental resources, or the director of the bureau of employment programs serving as the secretary's designee; the secretary of education and the arts, or the assistant director for community colleges in the higher education central office serving as the secretary's designee; the secretary of health and human resources, or the director of the office of work and training serving as the secretary's designee; the state superintendent of schools, or the assistant superintendent for technical and adult education serving as the superintendent's designee; the chair of the West Virginia development council, or another private sector member of the council serving as the chair's designee; a labor representative who shall be a member of the joint apprenticeship and training council appointed by the governor; a small business representative who shall be from a firm with twenty-five or less employees appointed by the governor; an industry representative appointed by the governor; and the chair of the joint commission for vocational-technical-occupational education, or the executive director of the joint commission serving as the chair's designee.

(d) Beginning in the first quarter of the fiscal year, one thousand nine hundred ninety-four—ninety-five, the
governor's work force development council shall make quarterly reports to the Legislature at such time and in such form as the president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of Delegates shall direct. Such quarterly reports shall advise the Legislature of the progress of the council in developing a plan of action, of its accomplishments in implementing such plan and of problem areas or potential problem areas, including recommendations to the Legislature regarding the need for statutory amendments and the appropriate level of budgetary, regulatory and/or administrative authority of the council to improve accountability, coordination and performance throughout the state's work force development system.

On or before the thirtieth day of November, one thousand nine hundred ninety-five, the governor's work force development council as created and composed under the provisions of this article shall conclude its work with the issuance of a final report summarizing its accomplishments and its recommendations for ensuring continued progress in the development of work force competitiveness in West Virginia, including continuation of the council in the same or a modified form, or an alternative oversight structure, as it deems appropriate.

(e) To achieve greater efficiency in the blending of resources in public and postsecondary education, technical and adult education, job training partnership act, job opportunities and basic skills, employment services and other work force development programs, the governor's work force development council and the state steering committee for development and implementation of a statewide school-to-work opportunities system shall coordinate their work to the extent feasible and desirable. West Virginia's vision that all West Virginians will possess a core of knowledge, skills and personal attributes that enables them to make smooth transitions among the changing career opportunities and job requirements brought about by changing technologies and international competitiveness has implications for both the formal systems of public and
higher education and the large variety of education and training programs for students and adults preparing for entry into the work force, retraining for new careers, or updating their work force skills. While the development of a school-to-work opportunities system is targeted primarily at the formal educational systems, the huge need for maintaining a competitive work force dictates consideration of a melding of resources in the development of these separate initiatives.

(f) The West Virginia development office shall, without hiring additional staff, provide staff support to the council to ensure that economic development activities of the development office are integrated into any workforce development strategies recommended by the council.
The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

Chairman Senate Committee

Chairman House Committee

Originating in the House.

Takes effect from passage.

Clerk of the Senate

Clerk of the House of Delegates

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Delegates

The within is approved this the 30th day of November, 1994.

Governor
PRESENTED TO THE
GOVERNOR
Date 3/29/9
Time 11:47a