

WORKFORCE ARIZONA COUNCIL – STATE PLAN TASK FORCE AGENDA

Wednesday, February 14, 2018, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

100 N 15th Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85007, Suite 101
1.877.820.7831 Access Code: 103468

Members Present

Dawn Grove – Karsten Manufacturing
Michael Traylor – Department of Economic Security
Sandra Watson – Arizona Commerce Authority
Sheryl Hart – Arizona Department of Education, Adult Education

1. Welcome and Introductions

The State Plan Task Force was called to order at 1:15 P.M. Ms. Grove provided a brief welcome, thanked Gretchen Corey of the Office of Economic Opportunity for her work bringing everyone together to put together these modifications on the State Plan.

2. Call to the Public

No public comments were made.

3. Review of Proposed State Plan Modifications

Gretchen Corey, Special Projects Manager at the Arizona Office of Economic Opportunity, explained that there was a workgroup convened to address the modifications to the State Plan. Ms. Corey commented on the collaborative effort of the workgroup to meet deadlines and present the modified State Plan. Ms. Corey pointed out that the strategy section of the State plan was not changed or modified, and that such changes could be made in the next iteration of the state plan or sooner if the Task Force or Council wishes to make further updates. Ms. Corey presented the federal instructions for what must be included in the state plan, including the template used, to show the detail necessary within the plan. Ms. Corey then provided an overview of the most significant changes to the plan.

- The workforce system organizational chart was updated.
- Language was included that showed the collaborative efforts within the system, example of the Council's leadership/endorsements.
- Labor Market information was updated.
- Information on the Labor Market dashboard project was included.
- Language on in-demand and emerging industries was included.

a. Overview of In-Demand Industries and Occupations

Doug Walls of the Office of Economic Opportunity presented on the methodology used to identify in-demand and emerging industries. Mr. Walls expressed the importance of this data to the local areas for use in programming, direction and allocations of funding. Mr. Walls defined in-demand industries and presented a handout that showed the in-demand industries within the State.

- Ms. Grove asked if the in-demand industries identified using this methodology matched the priority industries identified by the Arizona Commerce Authority. Mr. Walls stated that the methodology was different, so there may be differences, but there may also be significant overlap. Ms. Grove and Sandra Watson stated that consistency moving forward will be essential and commented on the creation of an intentional strategy to align research. Ms. Watson commented that Mr. Walls and his team could collaborate with the research team at ACA to do so.
- Ms. Watson asked how often the State Plan could be modified. Ms. Corey stated that the state plan could be modified as often as desired by the Council, but at this time, was a necessary modification is required by the Department of Labor.
- Ms. Grove asked about the formulas and methodology used. Ms. Grove used the net gain of manufacturing jobs as an example. Ms. Grove and Ms. Watson indicated that there were significant growths in manufacturing jobs and believe that the small net gain presented through the data was inaccurate. Mr. Walls indicated that the net gain was small due to multiple reasons, including annualized forecasts and a decline in certain areas in the manufacturing industry in recent years. Ms. Grove and Ms. Watson indicated that they have not witnessed a decline in the manufacturing industry and asked Mr. Walls where he received his data from. Mr. Walls indicated that his data came from DES and UI tax records. Ms. Watson commented that new job growth is estimated over time and may not be included in the forecasts.

b. Discussion of Employer Measures

Ms. Grove explained the sources of employer measures (federal, state level). Ms. Grove expressed the difficulties in navigating the choice of language used within the measures. Michael Wisheart of the Department of Economic Security provided guidelines for how measurement data is gathered and the expected outcome of measurements. Ms. Grove and Ms. Watson asked about a specific measure regarding staff-assisted job placements. Mr. Wisheart provided clarification on what constitutes a staff-assisted placement. Mr. Wisheart then provided an overview of the first two federal measures.

Ms. Grove asked how priorities are chosen. Mr. Wisheart commented that the Arizona Commerce Authority, the Office of Economic Opportunity, DES, and the local areas all had input. Ms. Watson commented that the focus should be on the employer.

Ms. Grove stated that the federal government provides three measures and that Arizona picked two of the three but after discussions there seems to be a need to change one of the two chosen.

i. Vote to Recommend Council Approval of Updated Employer Measures

Federal Measures

1. Retention: % of participants who exit and are employed with the same employer/business in the 2nd and 4th quarters after exit
3. % of businesses/employers using services out of all employers in the state

State Measures

1. Average days to fill staff-assisted AJC positions (not job orders)
2. Percentage of employers who contacted an ARIZONA@WORK Job Center who confirm ARIZONA@WORK services assisted in identifying qualified job applicants (Percentage will be derived from those employers providing a response)

3. Number of companies and business organizations that have been visited by ARIZONA@WORK employees.

After additional discussion Sandra Watson moved to approve and present the above measures to the Executive Committee and Council for approval. Sheryl Hart seconded.

Ms. Watson moved, seconded by Ms. Hart. The motion passed.

4. Recommendation for Council to Adopt State Plan Modifications

Ms. Grove provided a brief history on the system organizational chart and asked for input as to the revised chart.

Ms. Hart indicated that Career and Technical Education had been removed from the revised chart. Ms. Corey indicated that this was an oversight and stated that she will add CTE back into the chart. Ms. Hart, Ms. Watson, and Mr. Traylor expressed their support for the updated revised organizational chart.

5. Adjournment

Sheryl Hart moved to adjourn that was seconded by Sandra Watson. The meeting was adjourned at 3:07 PM.