



THE STATE OF GEORGIA

EXECUTIVE ORDER

BY THE GOVERNOR:

- WHEREAS:** The key to prosperity for Georgia and Georgians is a robust and resilient job-driven economy, ready to respond to opportunities for growth;
- WHEREAS:** Georgia's competitiveness in capturing and creating 21st Century job opportunities relies on a workforce with the capacity to match the spectrum of skills, knowledge, and lifelong learning demanded by a dynamic global market;
- WHEREAS:** Successfully developing Georgia's workforce as our State's number one asset in a global economy must ally the leadership, vision, and resources of the state's workforce development, education systems, employment services, economic development planning, and business & industry initiatives in a strategic enterprise, which is built on strong public/private partnerships;
- WHEREAS:** The National Governors Association has identified these essential elements of the 21st Century Workforce System: stronger connections to the business community to identify the skills needed to power the regional economy; training and education programs to meet skill demands and connect the resources of various programs to provide lifelong training and education; and support of industry-sector and cluster-based strategies working with networks of firms to train the workforce cost effectively;
- WHEREAS:** The Workforce Investment Act of 1998 was enacted by Congress for the purpose of providing "workforce investment systems that increase the employment, retention, and earnings of participants and increase occupational skill attainment by participants, and as a result, improve the quality of the workforce, reduce welfare dependency, and enhance the productivity and competitiveness of the nation;" and
- WHEREAS:** The Workforce Investment Act of 1998 requires the Governor to establish a state Workforce Investment Board to assist in development of a multiyear State Strategic Plan to accomplish those purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME AS GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA, IT IS HEREBY

- ORDERED:** That the State Workforce Investment Board be reconstituted with the mission to assist the Governor in creating an integrated statewide strategic plan for Workforce Development, which links workforce policies and education programs to the economic needs of the state, its regions, and its communities;

That the Governor and Board develop the statewide strategic plan based on a shared vision, guiding principles and goals, coordinated policies and partnerships, and defined priorities that support measurable and meaningful outcomes.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That the membership of the board be composed as follows:

- A. A Coordinating Council, which comprises the Governor and chief executives of the lead State agencies in the workforce development system, will serve as the steering committee of the Workforce Investment Board.
 - The Governor of Georgia -- Chair
 - The Commissioner of Labor -- Vice-Chair
 - The Commissioner of Economic Development
 - The Commissioner of Community Affairs
 - The Chancellor of the University System of Georgia
 - The Commissioner of Technical and Adult Education
 - The State Superintendent of Schools
 - The Commissioner of Bright from the Start
 - The President of the Georgia Student Finance Commission
 - The Commissioner of the Department of Juvenile Justice
 - The Director of the Office of Planning and Budget
- B. Twenty (20) additional members to be appointed by the Governor. Such members must (1) represent a business as a high-level executive such as an owner, CEO, COO, etc. of a company that represents the employment opportunities in the State, and (2) be appointed from among individuals nominated by a state business organization or trade association.
- C. 2 municipal elected officials, of which 1 shall also represent the business community
- D. 2 county elected officials, of which 1 shall also represent the business community
- E. 1 representative of an organization which has experience with youth activities; appointed by the Governor
- F. 1 representative of a workforce investment service delivery organization; appointed by the Governor
- G. 1 representative of labor organizations nominated by state labor federation; appointed by the Governor
- H. 2 members of the Georgia House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House
- I. 2 members of the Georgia Senate, appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That the board shall be administratively attached to the Office of Planning and Budget.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That a Workforce Cabinet be established consisting of the Governor, Commissioners of Labor, Technical and Adult Education, and Economic Development, the Superintendent of Schools, and the Chancellor of the University System of Georgia, who will be responsible for coordinating the management of the state comprehensive workforce delivery system. The Director of the Office of Planning and Budget and the Chair of the State Workforce Investment Board will be Ex-Officio members, and the Program Manager for Workforce Development will staff the work of the cabinet.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That the duties of the State Board shall include assisting the Governor in complying with provisions and requirements of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, including the:

1. development of the State Plan
2. continuous improvement of a statewide system of activities funded under the Workforce Investment Act or carried out through the one-stop delivery system including linkages to assure coordination and non-duplication among programs and review of local plans
3. annual commentary on the measures taken pursuant to the Carl Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Education Act
4. designation of local workforce investment areas
5. development of allocation formulas for adult employment and training and youth activities to local workforce investment areas
6. development and continuous improvement of comprehensive state performance measures, including State-adjusted levels of performance, to assess the effectiveness of workforce investment activities
7. preparation of the annual report to the U.S. Secretary of Labor
8. development of the statewide employment statistics system, and
9. development of an incentive grants system

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That the Georgia Department of Labor will continue to be the administrative entity for the receipt of the funds under the Workforce Investment Act pursuant to an intergovernmental agreement; however, the Office of Planning and Budget, on behalf of the Governor, will access the Governor's set aside funds for staff, administration and statewide projects;

That an agreement with the Department of Labor specify terms of accountability for financial management of WIA funds and performance measures to assess effectiveness;

That the Governor and the State Board shall be authorized to employ and contract with other individuals and organizations needed to assist in executing the council's responsibilities;

That the 11-person Coordinating Council chaired by the Governor, and the Council of Creative Georgians (GO 21), be assisted by a Program Manager, whose primary duty will be: (1) to coordinate with the Workforce Investment Board on statewide workforce development issues; and (2) staff the work needs of the Workforce Cabinet and Council of Creative Georgians;

That all departments, institutions, agencies, commissions, councils, authorities, boards, bureaus or other entities of the State are authorized and directed to provide all information and support as required by the Board to perform its duties.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That the State agency heads named to serve on the Board will be personally engaged in the planning, coordination, and implementation of an integrated statewide workforce development system aligned with strategic objectives;

That the members of the Board shall represent diverse regions of the state, including urban, rural, and suburban areas;

That members of the Board shall serve for a period of three years or at the pleasure of the official who appointed such member.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That a Council of Creative Georgians, to be known as "GO 21" be established as an advisory team to the Governor and the State Board, to bring "possibility thinking" to expanding and creating job opportunities for the 21st Century; and that members of the council will be appointed by the Governor. Their only duties will be to advise the Governor on innovative and needed steps to ensure that Georgia is prepared to have the workforce needed for the 21st Century.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That a 501 (c) 3 corporation be established for the purpose of accepting funds from donors to support Workforce Development initiatives; and that the Board of Directors, which may be drawn from the membership of the State Board, be appointed by the Governor.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That the Governor hereby exercises the authority designated by the Workforce Investment Act to reserve up to 15 percent of the state allocation for statewide workforce investment activities within the parameters set forth in Sec. 128 to initiate demonstration projects and fund other initiatives.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That the State Board is authorized to create supporting committees representing state agencies and organizations with interests and expertise that relate to specific areas of Workforce Development, including, but not limited to, the Department of Corrections, the Department of Juvenile Justice, the Department of Human Resources, and the Strategic Industries/Competitiveness and Workforce Development Task Force, respectively

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That the Workforce Investment Board consider organizing task forces as subcommittees to address topics such as communication and coordination, strategic forecasting and research, educational partnerships and other specific topics essential to a statewide plan.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That the existing Executive Order dated July 6, 1999, be rescinded.

This 2nd day of February, 2006.


GOVERNOR