

STATE OF DELAWARE



**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
DOVER**

EXECUTIVE ORDER
NUMBER FORTY-SEVEN

TO: HEADS OF ALL STATE DEPARTMENTS, AGENCIES AND AUTHORITIES, AND ALL POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS AND GOVERNMENTAL UNITS OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE

RE: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

WHEREAS, ensuring a high-quality workforce that will meet Delaware's economic needs in the Twenty-First Century is one of the highest priorities of the Carper-Minner Administration and of the State's employers; and

WHEREAS, a customer-driven and accountable workforce development system which promotes skill development and self-sufficiency among the State's emerging, transitional, and current workers is critical to generating and maintaining a high-quality workforce; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Government has failed to take legislative action to overhaul a fragmented, outmoded, and inflexible array of categorical federal job-training programs which impair the State's ability to meet its workforce development goals; and

WHEREAS, despite the absence of federal leadership, other states have proceeded to undertake significant reforms of their workforce development systems; and

WHEREAS, the Delaware Workforce Development Council (alternatively, the “Council”) was established in 1994 for the purpose of creating a coordinated, comprehensive workforce development system for Delaware; and

WHEREAS, the Council was charged in 1994 with developing a strategic plan that includes goals, strategies, and performance measures for a continuum of workforce development programs, including school-to-work, welfare-to-work, prison-to-work, economically disadvantaged persons, dislocated workers, and customized worker training programs; and

WHEREAS, the Council should be designed in order to have the capacity to conduct effective strategic planning and to set funding priorities which are consistent with key state policy objectives; and

WHEREAS, the lack of federal reform has resulted in the need for the continuation of multiple workforce development governance bodies which have conflicting and overly prescriptive membership requirements; and

WHEREAS, it is therefore necessary to create a body of reasonable size which has the authority and structure to provide effective leadership in coordinating the State’s various workforce development efforts; and

WHEREAS, until the federal government enacts meaningful workforce development reform, the most efficient method to create such a body is to constitute an Executive Committee

of the Workforce Development Council with the mandate and authority to set priorities and ensure that workforce development funds are efficiently and coherently used to accomplish important state objectives.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, THOMAS R. CARPER, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Delaware, do hereby declare and order that:

1. An Executive Committee of the Workforce Development Council shall be established to coordinate the Council's efforts and produce a strategic plan on or before November 15, 1997.
2. The Executive Committee shall be chaired by the Lieutenant Governor and include among its members: the Secretary of Labor; the Secretary of Health and Social Services; the Secretary of Education; the Director of the Delaware Economic Development Office; and four private sector members from the Council, including the Chairperson of the Workforce Development Council (or the Vice-Chairperson if the Chairperson of the Council is also the Chairperson of the Executive Committee).
3. The Executive Committee shall forthwith select an Executive Director of the Council to prepare the strategic plan with staff and funding support from the Council, the Delaware Private Industry Council ("DPIC"), and state agencies with representation on the Council. In addition to those requirements for the strategic plan set forth in Executive Order Number Twenty-Five, the strategic plan shall include a plan for ensuring that federal workforce development funds are used in concert with state workforce development funds appropriated to or expended by agencies with representation on the Council. The strategic plan shall include performance

measures for gauging the effectiveness of workforce development programs, and identify and include a timetable for sunseting inactive and/or duplicative councils, including consolidating the functions of the Council and DPIC into one entity.

4. The Executive Director and other staff of the Workforce Development Council shall report directly to the Chairperson of the Executive Committee and be housed in physical space within the Chairperson's office.

5. The Workforce Development Council shall continue to function as a Human Resources Investment Council as delineated by the 1992 Amendments to the federal Job Training Partnership Act ("JTPA"), with the understanding that a change in federal law may significantly change the Council's composition, mission, and goals.

6. The Delaware Private Industry Council shall become a subcommittee of the Workforce Development Council, with a majority of private-sector members and in accordance with federal regulations promulgated pursuant to the JTPA.

7. In the absence of new federal workforce development legislation, the Executive Committee shall identify federal barriers to reform in its strategic plan and propose a plan to the Governor to pursue federal waivers to allow Delaware to streamline and improve its workforce development system.

8. The Executive Committee shall work with the Budget Director to implement a process on or before September 15, 1997 for presenting an annual plan to the Governor and Budget Director for the allocation and use of federal funds, state appropriated special funds, or non-

appropriated special funds for workforce development administered by the Council, state agencies with representation on the Council, and/or the DPIC so that the Governor and Budget Director can work with the Council to ensure that such funds are utilized in concert with related state general fund appropriations to advance state workforce development objectives.

9. The Executive Committee shall become the State's Governance Council for allocating and administering the funds granted by the federal government pursuant to the School-To-Work Opportunities Act. In that capacity, the Executive Committee shall review the use of federal funds, state appropriated special funds, and non-appropriated special funds for youth employment and training with a view toward promoting the effective use of such funds in concert with state general funds appropriated to serve similar goals. The staff for the State's school-to-work efforts shall be housed within the Department of Education.

10. Executive Order Seventeen is hereby repealed and Executive Order Twenty-Five is hereby rescinded to the extent inconsistent with this Order.

Approved this 10th day of June, 1997.


Governor

Attest:



