Executive Order 2012-02K

Creating the Governor’s Office of Workforce Transformation and
the Governor’s Executive Workforce Board

WHEREAS, private sector job growth in Ohio is the top priority of my administration; and

WHEREAS, the availability of an educated and trained workforce is essential for Ohioans to compete and prosper in a rapidly-changing global marketplace; and

WHEREAS, employers report a deficit of job-seekers and workers with 21st century education and skills; and

WHEREAS, Ohio’s current workforce system, which includes adult basic education programs, career centers, two-year and four-year colleges and universities, local workforce boards and one-stop centers, employer training programs, economic development organizations, and community-based organizations, lacks a central guiding entity, is overly complex, fragmented, administratively burdensome, and not adequately connected to regional and state economic development strategies; and

WHEREAS, Ohio’s workforce programs and resources are spread across multiple state agencies, and workforce development is not the primary mission of any state agency or cabinet level official; and

WHEREAS, Ohio lacks performance measures and a data collection and reporting system to gauge the efficiency and effectiveness of workforce programs and policies across the state government; and

WHEREAS, state government needs strong leadership and effective short- and long-term policies to create a workforce system that is demand-driven, adaptive to rapid change, innovative in design and delivery, entrepreneurial in spirit, and responsive to the needs of employers, workers, and job seekers.

NOW THEREFORE, I, John R. Kasich, Governor of the State of Ohio, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of this State, do hereby order and direct that:

1. The Governor’s Office of Workforce Transformation (“OWT”) is hereby created in order to:
a. Coordinate and align workforce policies, programs, and resources across state government to improve effectiveness, efficiency and accountability;

b. Determine the best deployment of state and federal workforce resources and to direct how these resources are used and allocated by Cabinet Agencies, Boards and Commissions through a single, unified workforce development budget;

c. Establish an effective state and local workforce data collection system as well as cross-agency workforce system performance measures that are meaningful to employers, individuals, and policymakers;

d. Review federal laws and rules that limit state discretion over the use of federal workforce funds, and recommend changes to pursue with federal officials; and

e. Convene and lead an interagency team of representatives made up of staff from Cabinet Agencies, Boards and Commissions that will provide information and input to support the work of the OWT and will implement the administrative, program, policy, reporting and budget directives or requests of the OWT.

2. I will appoint an Executive Director ("Director") to lead the OWT who will report directly to me. The OWT Director shall oversee and implement the activities described above. The OWT Director shall have the authority and discretion to establish the organizational structure of the OWT and to request and receive advice, information, and recommendations from the Governor’s Executive Workforce Board, created in this Executive Order, to develop and improve Ohio’s entire workforce system.

3. All Cabinet Agencies, Boards and Commissions shall comply with any requests or directives issued by the OWT Executive Director or the OWT’s Executive Director’s designee, subject to the supervision of their respective agency directors. This requirement extends to, but is not limited to, the cabinet directors and employees of the following agencies and departments: Department of Development, Department of Job and Family Services, the Board of Regents, Department of Aging, Department of Commerce, Department of Education, Department of Health, Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections, Department of Transportation, Department of Veterans Services, Department of Youth Services, the Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services, and the Rehabilitation Services Commission.

4. Executive Order 2010-11S, "Continuing the Governor’s Workforce Policy Advisory Board," is hereby rescinded, effective when this Executive Order (2012-02K) takes effect. With the rescission of Executive Order 2010-11S, the "Governor’s Workforce Policy Advisory Board" that was continued under that order shall cease to exist.
5. The Governor’s Executive Workforce Board (“Board”) is hereby established to advise the Governor and OWT on the development, implementation, and continuous improvement of Ohio’s entire workforce system. The Governor’s Executive Workforce Board (“Board”) created by this Executive Order 2012-02K also shall carry out the functions provided in the federal Workforce Investment Act of 1988 (“WIA”) and related provisions of Ohio law. The majority of the Board shall directly represent private-sector business and shall be driven by the needs of business and industry.

   a. The Board will:

      i. Review data and information on economic, employment, and education conditions and trends; the skill needs of employers; and workforce programs;

      ii. Recommend procedures and policies to improve state and local workforce programs and services and to streamline and align programs, resources, and performance measures across state government;

      iii. Provide guidance on funding levels for workforce programs that serve employers as well as incumbent and dislocated workers; and

      iv. Perform such other related work as the Governor or the OWT shall request.

   b. The Board will be chaired by a business person and will have a maximum of 29 (twenty-nine) members, who will be appointed by the Governor. Members shall represent the diverse geographic and business sectors of Ohio as well as program and policy experts and customers of the workforce system.

   c. The Board may adopt by-laws setting forth rules for the governance of the Board and conduct of its meetings. The by-laws may provide for committees of the Board, the members of which may include individuals who are not members of the Board but whose experience and expertise is relevant and useful to the work of the committee.

   d. Members of the Board and non-Board members of any committee shall serve without compensation for their Board work, but shall receive payment for reasonable and necessary expenses incurred in the conduct of the Board or committee business. Such expenses shall be paid by the Ohio Department of Development (“Department”) or its successor organization. The Department will provide staff, office space, equipment, materials, and other resources to support the work of the Board and the OWT.
e. As the OWT Executive Director deems necessary, the OWT may contract with state and/or private agencies for services in order to facilitate the implementation and operation of the OWT's or Board's responsibilities.

I signed this Executive Order on February 9, 2012, in Batavia, Ohio, and it shall expire on my last day of service as Governor of the State of Ohio, unless it is rescinded before that date.

John Kasich, Governor

ATTEST:

Jon Husted, Secretary of State