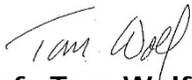


Executive Order

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Governor's Office

Subject: Keystone Economic Development and Workforce Command Center	Number: 2019-02
 By Direction of: Tom Wolf, Governor	Date: February 19, 2019

- WHEREAS, Pennsylvania must become a national and international leader in workforce and economic development as we face a changing economy and new demands on our workers and businesses; and
- WHEREAS, leaders in the Commonwealth, the General Assembly, the business community, and the labor community are committed to deploying all necessary resources to improve its workforce and economic development programs and conditions; and
- WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's economic future depends on a well-educated and highly-trained workforce; and
- WHEREAS, Pennsylvania businesses must have confidence to fill job vacancies with skilled workers in order to be productive economic engines; and
- WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's current low unemployment rate has resulted in a tight labor market and a shortage of applicants; and
- WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's declining population and anticipated retirement boom presents an urgent need to attract and retain more skilled workers; and
- WHEREAS, many Pennsylvania workers are employed in low-wage jobs; and
- WHEREAS, Pennsylvania workers and job-seekers need adequate training to develop skills required to be employed and to advance in today's workforce; and
- WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania can serve as an incubator of innovative ideas to develop Pennsylvania's economy and workforce so that it can meet these challenges; and
- WHEREAS, Commonwealth agencies must connect initiatives, align resources and efforts to address the needs of both job seekers and employers; and

WHEREAS, public-private partnerships can serve as a model of excellence to tackle the common goal of making Pennsylvania's workforce the best in the nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tom Wolf, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and other laws, do hereby establish, in the Office of the Governor, the Keystone Economic Development and Workforce Command Center ("Center") as hereinafter set forth.

1. **Purpose.** The Center will address Pennsylvania's workforce challenges by convening a public-private partnership to target collectively public programs and resources to address Pennsylvania's workforce shortage and talent needs, recommend action to reduce or eliminate impediments to employment, and better align Commonwealth resources and private sector needs to position Pennsylvania as the keystone for a skilled workforce and competitive business climate.
2. **Center Responsibilities.**
 - a. Identify impediments to employment, including but not limited to those that are imposed by Commonwealth regulations and practices, such as licensure, certification, and continuing education requirements.
 - b. Develop proposals and recommendations that minimize barriers to employment, modernize Pennsylvania's workforce, and improve Pennsylvania's business climate.
 - c. Identify successful models from the public and private sectors that address a worker's need for access to a broad range of supports.
 - d. Define and implement coordinated strategies across Commonwealth agencies to improve talent attraction and retention in critical Pennsylvania industries including, but not limited to health care, education, agriculture, manufacturing, technology and innovation, and other targeted sectors.
 - e. Monitor implementation of the Governor's priorities, policies, and initiatives related to workforce development.
 - f. Engage and partner with other stakeholders, including but not limited to businesses, trade organizations, philanthropic, and community organizations, to carry out the functions described herein.
 - g. Review and, where appropriate, implement recommendations from the Auditor General's 2019 audit of Pennsylvania's workforce development system.
 - h. Develop workforce and economic development goals and track implementation and progress through the development of a dashboard.

- 3. Composition of the Center.** The Center shall be composed of an Executive Committee and representatives from the executive branch as described herein.
- a. Executive Committee.** The Center shall be led by an Executive Committee consisting of the following:
- (1) A representative from each of the following private sector entities:
 - (a) Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry;
 - (b) The Pennsylvania American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO); and
 - (c) Team Pennsylvania Foundation.
 - (2) The following Commonwealth officials:
 - (a) Secretary of the Department of Community and Economic Development or designee;
 - (b) Secretary of the Department of Labor and Industry or designee; and
 - (c) Secretary of the Department of State or designee.
- b. Additional Members.** Other members of the Center include:
- (1) A representative from each of the following:
 - (a) The Office of the Auditor General, in its capacity as a Commonwealth entity responsible for improving government accountability, transparency, and the effective use of taxpayer dollars; in this case as it relates to the workforce and economic development strategies undertaken by the Center; and
 - (b) The State Workforce Development Board, in its capacity as the Commonwealth's private sector policy advisor on building a strong workforce development system aligned with economic development goals.
 - (2) The following Commonwealth officials:
 - (a) Secretary of the Department of Education or designee;
 - (b) Secretary of the Department of Human Services or designee;
 - (c) Secretary of the Department of Agriculture or designee; and
 - (d) Secretary of the Department of Corrections or designee.

- c. All agencies under the Governor's jurisdiction that are members of the Center shall cooperate and provide assistance as needed to the Center in performing its functions. The Center will receive administrative services and assistance from the Department of Community and Economic Development.
4. **Executive Director.**
 - a. The Governor shall appoint an Executive Director to oversee the Center's operations who shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.
 - b. The Executive Director shall report directly to the Secretary of the Department of Community and Economic Development.
 - c. The Executive Director shall regularly convene meetings with the Executive Committee and members to ensure the Center is meeting its purpose as defined under Center responsibilities.
 - d. The Executive Director in consultation with the Secretary of the Department of Community and Economic Development may hire such staff as may be needed to carry out the functions described in this Executive Order.
5. **Compensation.** Members of the Center shall receive no compensation for their service, except that members may be reimbursed for travel and related expenses in accordance with Commonwealth policy.
6. **Responsibilities of State Agencies.** Agencies whose industry sectors are facing significant workforce shortage and/or whose consumer populations are facing barriers to entry and retention, shall cooperate with, provide assistance to, and review recommendations of the Center with respect to its purpose and responsibilities, as set forth in this Executive Order.
7. **Reports.** The Center shall submit an annual report to the Governor or the Governor's designee, and other reports as it deems necessary, on the identified areas of responsibility for the Center, and overall issues affecting workforce and economic development including workforce shortages and barriers to work in the Commonwealth.
8. **Committees.** The Executive Committee shall have the authority to establish, appoint members, and delegate duties to committees as it deems necessary to fulfill its duties and responsibilities. All committees shall be chaired by a member of the Center.
9. **Implementation.** All Commonwealth agencies under the Governor's jurisdiction are directed to take all steps necessary to implement this Executive Order. Independent agencies are also strongly encouraged to implement this Executive Order.
10. **Effective Date.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect until amended or rescinded by the Governor.