

CHAPTER 65—S.F.No. 1569

An act relating to workforce development; amending local workforce council representative requirements; establishing collaborative local projects; coordinating employment training and education services; amending Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 116L.666, subdivision 3.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 116L.666, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **Membership on local workforce councils.** In workforce service areas representing only one home rule charter or statutory city or a county, the chief elected official must appoint members to the council. In workforce service areas representing two or more home rule charter or statutory cities or counties, the chief elected officials of the home rule charter or statutory cities or counties must appoint members to the council, in accordance with an agreement entered into by such units of general local government.

A council shall include as members:

(1) representatives of the private sector, who must constitute a majority of the membership of the council and who are owners of business concerns, chief executives or chief operating officers of nongovernmental employers, or other private sector executives who have substantial management or policy responsibility;

(2) at least two representatives of organized labor;

(3) representatives of the area workforce and community-based organizations, who shall constitute not less than 15 percent of the membership of the council; and

(4) representatives of each of the following:

(i) educational agencies that are representative of all educational agencies within the workforce service area;

(ii) vocational rehabilitation agencies;

(iii) public assistance agencies;

(iv) economic development agencies; and

(v) public employment service agencies.

The chair of each local workforce council shall be selected from among the members of the council who are representatives of the private sector.

Private sector representatives on the local workforce council shall be selected from among individuals nominated by general purpose business organizations, such as local chambers of commerce, in the workforce service area.

Education representatives on the local workforce council must include at least one representative from a local adult basic education program approved under section 124D.52 and the remaining education representatives shall be selected from among individuals nominated by secondary and postsecondary educational institutions within the workforce service area.

Organized labor representatives on the local workforce council shall be selected from individuals recommended by recognized state and local labor federations, organizations, or councils. If the state or local labor federations, organizations, or councils fail to nominate a sufficient number of individuals to meet the labor representation requirements, individual workers may be included on the local workforce council to complete the labor representation.

The commissioner must certify a local workforce council if the commissioner determines that its composition and appointments are consistent with this subdivision.

Sec. 2. COLLABORATIVE LOCAL PROJECTS; COORDINATION OF EMPLOYMENT, TRAINING, AND EDUCATION SERVICES.

Subdivision 1. Collaborative local projects; selection. The governor's Workforce Development Council shall convene a meeting with representatives of the Department of Employment and Economic Development, the Department of Human Services, the Department of Education with respect to K-12 institutions and adult basic education, the University of Minnesota, and the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities to identify and establish four collaborative local projects to plan and coordinate employment, training, and education programs and services administered by those agencies and institutions. By August 1, 2009, the local projects must be selected to represent different configurations of workforce centers, college campuses, and adult basic education programs. Three of the local projects must be located in a workforce services area under Minnesota Statutes, section 116L.666, as follows: one that is an urban area; one in a greater Minnesota regional center; and one in a rural area. At least one of these local projects must include a workforce center located on a campus of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities. Each local project selected under this subdivision must be assigned to a local workforce council to develop a collaboration plan under subdivision 3.

Subd. 2. Employment, training, and education goals. The goals of the collaborative local employment, training, and education projects include, but are not limited to:

- (1) engaging low-skilled workers in increasing their skill levels;
- (2) providing skill training while upgrading basic skill levels;
- (3) improving the provision of skill training to individuals currently working;
- (4) integrating employer contact efforts to improve responsiveness to employer's needs;
- (5) strengthening employer input with training curriculum;
- (6) improving access to service and training to public assistance recipients;
- (7) integrating career planning and job placement efforts among institutions;
- (8) maximizing coordination and reducing duplication among providers;
- (9) systematically evaluating industry training needs; and

(10) providing noncredit remediation at no cost to students.

Subd. 3. **Collaboration plan.** A local workforce council assigned a project under this section must develop a plan on how employment, training, and education services offered by the state agencies and institutions can be collaboratively offered to attain the goals of subdivision 2. The collaboration plan must be developed through a stakeholder process that includes, at a minimum, representatives from:

(1) Minnesota State Colleges and Universities;

(2) local adult basic education;

(3) workforce centers;

(4) local school districts;

(5) community action agencies; and

(6) public housing agencies.

Each local project must report their plans to the governor's workforce development council which must report on the plans to the committees of the legislature with responsibility for workforce development by March 15, 2010. The report must include each local project plan with recommendations on state agency and higher education programs and services that should be integrated into a local project. The report may also include recommendations on necessary enhancements and improvements of services and processes, and identification of private and public funding, waivers, and other program modifications necessary to better achieve the goals of subdivision 2.

Subd. 4. **Plan implementation.** By July 1, 2010, each local collaborative project must implement its plan for at least one year. Local collaborators, including the agencies listed in subdivision 3, may modify a plan if the modification would better achieve plan goals.

Subd. 5. **Second report to legislature.** By February 15, 2011, each local project must report to the governor's workforce development council on progress in implementing the plan. By March 11, 2011, the governor's workforce development council must report to the committees of the legislature responsible for workforce development on the progress of implementing plans under this section. The report must include recommendations on funding, system design, and statutory changes that are reasonable and necessary to achieve the goals of subdivision 2.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective the day following final enactment.

Presented to the governor May 8, 2009

Signed by the governor May 12, 2009, 4:43 p.m.