
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2754 Session of
1992

INTRODUCED BY RICHARDSON, DeWEESE, KUKOVICH, COHEN, ITKIN,
THOMAS, JOSEPHS, RITTER, CARN, VAN HORNE, JAMES, SCRIMENTI,
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JAROLIN, FREEMAN, STURLA, BISHOP, OLIVER, TRICH, STETLER,
CAPPABIANCA, PRESTON, ROEBUCK, CAWLEY, TIGUE, PESCI AND
MELIO, MAY 18, 1992

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND WELFARE, MAY 18, 1992

AN ACT

1 Providing for the formation of the Joint Legislative and
2 Executive Task Force on Job Creation and for the
3 implementation of a comprehensive job creation plan.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Short title.

7 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Pennsylvania
8 Job Creation Plan.

9 Section 2. Statement of legislative findings.

10 The General Assembly finds and declares as follows:

11 (1) The Commonwealth's unemployment rate rose to 7.6% in
12 February 1992. The nationwide unemployment rate also rose
13 during the same period to its highest level in nearly a
14 decade.

15 (2) The 7.6% unemployment rate translates into 457,000
16 Commonwealth residents, not counting those receiving or

1 having recently exhausted unemployment compensation benefits,
2 68,000 more than a year ago.

3 (3) When an increasing number of people are unemployed
4 while the number of available jobs is decreasing, the effect
5 on the Commonwealth's economy is potentially devastating.

6 (4) In this economic climate, job search programs or
7 workfare requirements will not alter the problem; there are
8 no jobs available to a large number of Pennsylvanians.

9 (5) It is in the public interest that trained and
10 educated recipients of general assistance with job skills
11 work. To accomplish this, the Commonwealth must implement a
12 job creation plan to provide people with the job
13 opportunities they want and need to be productive.

14 (6) The General Assembly's willingness to implement such
15 a plan will definitively answer the question of whether
16 lawmakers truly want to put job-ready recipients of general
17 assistance to work or simply remove them from the welfare
18 rolls.

19 Section 3. Definitions.

20 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
21 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
22 context clearly indicates otherwise:

23 "Job ready." As defined in the regulations of the Department
24 of Public Welfare.

25 "Task Force." The Joint Legislative and Executive Task Force
26 on Job Creation established in section 4.

27 Section 4. Joint Legislative and Executive Task Force on Job 28 Creation.

29 (a) Establishment.--The Governor and the General Assembly
30 shall immediately convene the Joint Legislative and Executive

1 Task Force on Job Creation to initiate a three-year job creation
2 plan.

3 (b) Development of list.--The Governor and the Majority
4 Leader and Minority Leader of each House shall develop through
5 the task force a detailed list of all current economic
6 development, State tax credits and tax subsidization efforts
7 which are designed to create jobs and the public and private
8 beneficiaries of such efforts. This list is to serve as a
9 starting point for developing standards and requirements for
10 hiring job-ready general assistance recipients and unemployed
11 workers who have exhausted their unemployment compensation
12 benefits.

13 (c) Review.--The task force shall review all new capital
14 construction projects, new Federal highway and housing funding,
15 current bonding efforts, such as Pennvest, and other State and
16 local capital and bonding efforts as to the number of jobs and
17 the geographic location of such jobs that will be made
18 available.

19 (d) Contract requirements.--The task force shall develop new
20 State contract requirements to include job placement
21 requirements for the hiring of job-ready recipients and
22 unemployed workers on all new capital construction projects, new
23 Federal highway and housing funding, current bonding efforts and
24 other State and local capital and bonding efforts.

25 Section 5. Report.

26 The task force shall issue a report to the General Assembly
27 within 120 days of the effective date of this act outlining its
28 findings, and the General Assembly shall enact legislation, if
29 recommended, based on those findings.

30 Section 6. Effective date.

1 This act shall take effect in 60 days.