

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 902 Session of  
2007

INTRODUCED BY TARTAGLIONE, MELLOW, LAVALLE, MUSTO, LOGAN, COSTA,  
C. WILLIAMS, STOUT, KASUNIC, KITCHEN, BROWNE, O'PAKE,  
BOSCOLA, WOZNIAK, WASHINGTON, STACK, FERLO AND FONTANA,  
JUNE 1, 2007

REFERRED TO LABOR AND INDUSTRY, JUNE 1, 2007

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of December 18, 2001 (P.L.949, No.114),  
2 entitled, as amended, "An act establishing a unified  
3 workforce investment system; restructuring certain  
4 administrative functions, procedures and entities;  
5 transferring workforce development functions of Commonwealth  
6 agencies; establishing the Pennsylvania Workforce Investment  
7 Board; providing for critical job training grants, for  
8 guarantees for program quality and performance for workforce  
9 development programs, for workforce leadership grants; and  
10 authorizing local workforce investment boards," further  
11 providing for membership of the Pennsylvania Workforce  
12 Investment Board; and establishing the Pennsylvania Center  
13 for Health Careers.

14 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
15 hereby enacts as follows:

16 Section 1. Section 302(a) of the act of December 18, 2001  
17 (P.L.949, No.114), known as the Workforce Development Act,  
18 amended December 16, 2002 (P.L.1930, No.224), is amended to  
19 read:

20 Section 302. Membership.

21 (a) General rule.--The board shall be established as  
22 follows:

1 (1) The Governor or a designee.

2 (2) Four members of the General Assembly:

3 (i) Two senators, one appointed by the President pro  
4 tempore of the Senate and one appointed by the Minority  
5 Leader of the Senate.

6 (ii) Two representatives, one appointed by the  
7 Speaker of the House of Representatives and one appointed  
8 by the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives.

9 (3) Representatives appointed by the Governor who are:

10 (i) Representatives of business, including private  
11 sector employers, representatives from each of the  
12 Commonwealth's marketing regions, owners of businesses,  
13 chief executive officers, other business executives with  
14 optimum policymaking or hiring authority, members of  
15 local workforce investment boards and businesses that  
16 reflect the employment opportunities in this  
17 Commonwealth, including large and small employers.

18 (ii) Chief elected officials nominated by Statewide  
19 organizations or associations representing elected  
20 officials.

21 (iii) Representatives of labor organizations who  
22 have been nominated by State labor federations.

23 (iv) Representatives of individuals and  
24 organizations experienced with respect to youth  
25 activities.

26 (v) Representatives of organizations which have  
27 experience and expertise in the delivery of workforce  
28 investment activities, including chief executive officers  
29 of community colleges, technical colleges and community-  
30 based organizations in this Commonwealth.

1           (v.1) The chair or a co-chair of the Health Careers  
2           Leadership Council of the Pennsylvania Center for Health  
3           Careers.

4           (vi) Lead Commonwealth agency officials, including:

5                   (A) The Secretary of Aging.

6                   (B) The Secretary of Community and Economic  
7           Development.

8                   (C) The Secretary of Education.

9                   (D) The Secretary of Labor and Industry.

10                  (E) The Secretary of Public Welfare.

11                  (F) The Director of the Governor's Policy  
12           Office.

13           (vii) Any other representative or Commonwealth  
14           agency official the Governor deems necessary.

15           (4) A majority of the board under this subsection must  
16           be representatives of business.

17           (5) The Governor shall solicit recommendations from  
18           State, regional and local business organizations in making  
19           appointments to the board.

20           \* \* \*

21           Section 2. The act is amended by adding a chapter to read:

22                               CHAPTER 11

23                               PENNSYLVANIA CENTER FOR HEALTH CAREERS

24           Section 1101. Definitions.

25           The following words and phrases when used in this chapter  
26           shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the  
27           context clearly indicates otherwise:

28           "Center." The Pennsylvania Center for Health Careers.

29           "Leadership council." The Health Careers Leadership Council  
30           of the Pennsylvania Center for Health Careers.

1 Section 1102. Pennsylvania Center for Health Careers.

2 (a) Establishment.--The Pennsylvania Center for Health  
3 Careers is hereby established within the Department of Labor and  
4 Industry.

5 (b) Purpose.--The center shall provide a focused direction  
6 and purpose for the development of strategies to address the  
7 Commonwealth's short-term and long-term health care workforce  
8 challenges to ensure the quality and supply of such work force  
9 by:

10 (1) Increasing the capacity of nursing education in this  
11 Commonwealth.

12 (2) Retaining health care workers.

13 (3) Increasing diversity of health care workers.

14 (4) Responding to the demand for allied health  
15 professionals that provide critical care.

16 (5) Addressing the needs of direct care workers.

17 (c) Powers and duties.--The center shall have the following  
18 powers and duties:

19 (1) Determine the health care workforce needs of this  
20 Commonwealth through research, outreach and study.

21 (2) Research best practices in addressing similar  
22 workforce needs in other states.

23 (3) Assess the effectiveness of the initiatives,  
24 programs and projects the center undertakes.

25 (4) Assist and implement the initiatives and strategies  
26 of the leadership council.

27 (5) Develop recruitment and workplace tools that assist  
28 health care facilities to increase the diversity of their  
29 work force and promote the delivery of culturally appropriate  
30 care.

1       (6) Assess the current capacity of medical education  
2       within this Commonwealth's medical schools and training  
3       programs.

4       (7) Assess current and needed efforts addressing  
5       recruitment and retention of physicians and other health care  
6       professionals.

7       Section 1103. Leadership council.

8       (a) Membership.--The center shall be governed by the Health  
9       Careers Leadership Council which shall consist of the following  
10       members:

11               (1) The Secretary of Labor and Industry or a designee.

12               (2) The Secretary of State or a designee.

13               (3) The Secretary of Health or a designee.

14               (4) The Secretary of Public Welfare or a designee.

15               (5) Four members of the General Assembly:

16                       (i) Two senators, one appointed by the President pro  
17                       tempore of the Senate and one appointed by the Minority  
18                       Leader of the Senate.

19                       (ii) Two representatives, one appointed by the  
20                       Speaker of the House of Representatives and one appointed  
21                       by the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives.

22       (6) Additional members that are representatives of  
23       health care-related professionals and organizations,  
24       including employers, employees, educators and labor  
25       organizations in such number as may be determined by the  
26       Governor and to be appointed by the Governor in consultation  
27       with the Pennsylvania Workforce Investment Board established  
28       by this act.

29       (7) Members of the leadership council shall serve at the  
30       pleasure of their respective appointing authorities. Members

1 shall not receive compensation for their service as members  
2 of the leadership council but shall be reimbursed for  
3 reasonable and necessary expenses in the performance of their  
4 duties in accordance with Commonwealth policy with the  
5 approval of the Secretary of Labor and Industry.

6 (8) The Governor shall designate a member or members of  
7 the leadership council to serve as chair or co-chairs.

8 (b) Powers and duties.--The leadership council shall have  
9 the following powers and duties:

10 (1) Determine the organization, procedures and  
11 priorities of the center.

12 (2) Develop initiatives, programs and projects for the  
13 center to address the health care workforce needs of this  
14 Commonwealth.

15 (3) Apply for grants and seek other revenue sources,  
16 including General Fund appropriations through the Department  
17 of Labor and Industry's budget.

18 (4) Do all other acts necessary to carry out the  
19 purposes and policies of this chapter.

20 Section 1104. Administration.

21 (a) General rule.--The Department of Labor and Industry  
22 shall provide administrative support to the center and the  
23 leadership council.

24 (b) Access.--The center shall use and have access to any  
25 information, services, functions and other resources in the  
26 possession of Commonwealth agencies deemed necessary to the  
27 fulfillment of its responsibilities under this chapter.

28 Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately.