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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 2547 Session of  
2012

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INTRODUCED BY PRESTON, V. BROWN, CALTAGIRONE, DEASY, JAMES,  
KOTIK, MAHONEY, MURT, SCHMOTZER, STABACK, WATERS AND  
WILLIAMS, JULY 11, 2012

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND INDUSTRY, JULY 11, 2012

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AN ACT

1 Establishing the Pennsylvania Council on Workforce Development;  
2 and providing for its powers and duties as lead agency in  
3 cooperation with other State agencies to promote workforce  
4 development.

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

7 Section 1. Short title.

8 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Pennsylvania  
9 Council on Workforce Development Act.

10 Section 2. Definitions.

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

14 "Council." The Pennsylvania Council on Workforce Development  
15 established by this act.

16 "Member." A member of the Pennsylvania Council on Workforce  
17 Development.

18 Section 3. Pennsylvania Council on Workforce Development.

1 (a) Establishment.--The Pennsylvania Council on Workforce  
2 Development is established. The council shall be responsible  
3 directly to the Governor. The council shall consist of ten  
4 members who shall be appointed by the Governor by and with the  
5 advice and consent of two-thirds of all the members of the  
6 Senate. The members of the council shall be broadly  
7 representative of all fields of workforce development and shall  
8 be appointed from among private citizens who are known for their  
9 competence and experience in connection with the education and  
10 workforce community.

11 (b) Legislative members.--Two members of the Senate, one of  
12 the majority party and one of the minority party, appointed by  
13 the President pro tempore of the Senate and two members of the  
14 House of Representatives, one of the majority party and one of  
15 the minority party, appointed by the Speaker, shall be voting  
16 members of the council and shall meet with, and participate in,  
17 the work of the council. The members of the General Assembly  
18 appointed to the council shall serve at the pleasure of the  
19 appointing power, but not beyond their term of office in the  
20 General Assembly.

21 (c) Gubernatorial members.--In addition to the members of  
22 the General Assembly six members of the council shall be  
23 appointed to serve until July 1, 2016.

24 (d) Terms.--After July 1, 2016, all members shall be  
25 appointed for a term of three years. All members shall hold  
26 office until their successors have been appointed and qualified.  
27 Any vacancies, other than members of the General Assembly, shall  
28 be immediately filled by the Governor for the unexpired portion  
29 of the term in which they occur. Vacancies among members of the  
30 General Assembly shall be filled by the appointing power which

1 made the appointment to the office in which the vacancy exists.  
2 No member of the council shall be eligible for reappointment  
3 during a one-year period following the expiration of his second  
4 successive term.

5 (e) Compensation prohibited.--Members shall serve without  
6 compensation, but each member shall be reimbursed for his  
7 necessary traveling and other expenses incurred in the  
8 performance of his official duties.

9 (f) Chairman and vice chairman.--The Governor shall appoint  
10 a chairman and vice chairman of the council to serve at his  
11 pleasure.

#### 12 Section 4. Meetings.

13 All meetings of the council shall be open and public in  
14 accordance with 65 Pa.C.S. Ch. 7 (relating to open meetings) and  
15 all persons shall be permitted to attend any meetings of the  
16 council.

#### 17 Section 5. Powers and duties.

18 The council shall have the powers and authority necessary to  
19 carry out the duties imposed upon it by this act including the  
20 power, but not limited to, the following:

21 (1) To adopt rules and regulations necessary for proper  
22 execution of the powers and duties granted to and imposed  
23 upon the council by this act.

24 (2) To employ such administrative, technical and other  
25 personnel as may be necessary for the performance of its  
26 powers and duties.

27 (3) To fix the salaries of the personnel employed  
28 pursuant to this section.

29 (4) To hold hearings, make and sign any agreements and  
30 to do or perform any acts which may be necessary, desirable

1 or proper to carry out the purposes of this act.

2 (5) To request from any department, board, bureau,  
3 commission or other agency of the Commonwealth such  
4 assistance and data as will enable it properly to carry out  
5 its powers and duties.

6 (6) To appoint such advisory committees as it deems  
7 advisable and necessary to the carrying out of its powers and  
8 duties.

9 (7) To accept any Federal funds granted, by act of  
10 United States Congress or by executive order, for all or any  
11 of the purposes of this act.

12 (8) To accept any gifts, donations or bequests for all  
13 or any of the purposes of this act.

14 Section 6. Strategy for increasing productivity of training.

15 The commission shall:

16 (1) Study and create a strategy for increasing  
17 productivity of training for businesses in this Commonwealth.

18 (2) Act as the lead agency in overseeing the workforce  
19 development in this Commonwealth while cooperating with other  
20 Commonwealth agencies.

21 (3) Submit a report to the Governor and to the General  
22 Assembly not later than ten calendar days following the  
23 commencement of each regular session of the General Assembly  
24 concerning such studies it has made and such actions it has  
25 taken and recommending such legislation and other action as  
26 is necessary for the implementation and enforcement of this  
27 act. The council shall submit a first report to the Governor  
28 and the General Assembly at the 2013 regular session.

29 Section 7. Construction.

30 Nothing contained in this act shall be construed as limiting

1 or vesting power in the council to encroach upon or usurp the  
2 power vested in any other commission or agency created under the  
3 laws of this Commonwealth.

4 Section 8. Effective date.

5 This act shall take effect immediately.