

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 174 Session of 2009

INTRODUCED BY TARTAGLIONE, FONTANA, STOUT, MUSTO, FERLO, BROWNE, KASUNIC, O'PAKE, KITCHEN, COSTA, LEACH, STACK, BOSCOLA, LOGAN, WOZNIAK AND FARNESE, FEBRUARY 2, 2009

REFERRED TO LABOR AND INDUSTRY, FEBRUARY 2, 2009

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:

23 (1) The Governor or a designee.

1 (2) Four members of the General Assembly:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

30 (v.1) The chair or a co-chair of the Health Careers

1 Leadership Council of the Pennsylvania Center for Health  
2 Careers.

3 (vi) Lead Commonwealth agency officials, including:

4 (A) The Secretary of Aging.

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

7 (C) The Secretary of Education.

8 (D) The Secretary of Labor and Industry.

9 (E) The Secretary of Public Welfare.

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

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

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

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

19 \* \* \*

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

21 CHAPTER 11

22 PENNSYLVANIA CENTER FOR HEALTH CAREERS

23 Section 1101. Definitions.

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

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

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

30 Section 1102. Pennsylvania Center for Health Careers.

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

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

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

11 (2) Retaining health care workers.

12 (3) Increasing diversity of health care workers.

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

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

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

18 (1) Determine the health care work force needs of this  
19 Commonwealth through research, outreach and study.

20 (2) Research best practices in addressing similar work  
21 force needs in other states.

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

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

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

30 (6) Assess the current capacity of medical education

1 within this Commonwealth's medical schools and training  
2 programs.

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

6 Section 1103. Leadership council.

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

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

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

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

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

14 (5) Four members of the General Assembly:

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

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

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

28 (7) Members of the leadership council shall serve at the  
29 pleasure of their respective appointing authorities. Members  
30 shall not receive compensation for their service as members

1 of the leadership council but shall be reimbursed for  
2 reasonable and necessary expenses in the performance of their  
3 duties in accordance with Commonwealth policy with the  
4 approval of the Secretary of Labor and Industry.

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

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

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

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

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

17 (4) Submit by January 31 of each year a report to the  
18 Chief Clerk of the Senate and the Chief Clerk of the House of  
19 Representatives, summarizing its activities and making  
20 recommendations as to prospective legislation.

21 (5) Do all other acts necessary to carry out the  
22 purposes and policies of this chapter.

23 Section 1104. Administration.

24 (a) General rule.--The Department of Labor and Industry  
25 shall provide administrative support to the center and the  
26 leadership council.

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

1 Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately.