RX0CMN-2
By Senator Scofield
RFD: RULES
First Read: 18-May-23
2023 Regular Session
Enrolled, An Act,

SJR___ CONTINUING THE DUTIES OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON 21ST CENTURY WORKFORCE.

WHEREAS, the Lieutenant Governor's Commission on 21st Century Workforce was established in 2019 by Senate Joint Resolution 31 of the 2019 Regular Session (Act 2019-68); and

WHEREAS, the initial membership of the commission included the Lieutenant Governor, three members of the Senate, and three members of the House of Representatives, each appointed by the Lieutenant Governor; and

WHEREAS, the commission was tasked to "study and, from time to time, make recommendations to the Legislature regarding the provision and coordination of workforce development efforts across state government"; and

WHEREAS, in February 2020, the commission released a comprehensive report that included recommendations for improving the state's workforce development efforts and maintaining the state's ability to compete in the global economy; and

WHEREAS, the state's labor force has undergone significant changes as a result of the COVID-19 global pandemic; and

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WHEREAS, the State of Alabama has one of the lowest labor force participation rates in the nation; and

WHEREAS, Alabama is recognized as a leader in many areas of workforce development, but the state does not have a comprehensive workforce strategy and has a number of duplicative programs within the state's workforce system; and

WHEREAS, the presence of a highly trained workforce is critical to the long-term economic success of the state; and

WHEREAS, Alabama recently enacted legislation to strengthen its economic development incentives and further enhance the state's business climate; and

WHEREAS, it is important for the state to periodically evaluate its workforce development programs and objectives to ensure that government funds are being used in the most efficient and effective manner; and

WHEREAS, a full review of the state's workforce system will provide state government leaders with a better understanding of what is needed to retain and strengthen the state's labor force; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the Lieutenant Governor's Commission on 21st Century Workforce shall study the state's current workforce development system and funding sources,
and develop a state workforce plan, and recommend
legislation that is needed to improve Alabama's workforce
outcomes.

(a)(1) The membership of the commission shall
continue as provided in subsection (a) of Senate Joint
Resolution 31 of the 2019 Regular Session (Act 2019-68),
with the addition of two individuals who are employed in the
private sector to be appointed by the Lieutenant Governor
within 30 days after the enactment of this resolution.

(2) The non-legislative members of the commission
shall serve without compensation but may be reimbursed for
necessary expenses in attending meetings of the commission
pursuant to the policies of their appointing authority.

(b) Pursuant to Section 36-14-17.1, Code of Alabama
1975, the commission shall provide to the Secretary of State
a notice of all meetings, the name of each member serving on
the commission, and a copy of its state workforce plan and
any of its other reports or documents produced during the
duration of its existence.

(c) The commission shall meet within 60 days of the
date of the final approval of this legislation and at least
two more times before the first day of the 2024 Regular
Session of the Legislature.

(d) The commission's duties shall include all of the
following:
(1) Develop a state workforce plan and make recommendations for legislative action to improve Alabama's workforce outcomes with placement of more of its residents in meaningful careers.

(2) Study and make recommendations for improving Alabama's workforce development programs and the use of any state and federal funding sources within each department or agency of state government, including, but not limited to, the Department of Commerce, the Department of Labor, the Alabama Commission on Higher Education, the Alabama Community College System, and the Department of Education.

(3) Study and recommend strategies for improving Alabama's labor force participation rate.

(4) Identify strategies to recruit, train, and place workers in high-demand, high-quality jobs, to expand work-based learning opportunities, and to increase the number of credentials earned by Alabama workers.

(5) Study highly regarded workforce development programs and effective workforce funding strategies in other states with conditions similar to those of Alabama.

(e) In doing its work, the commission may collaborate with and consider the concerns of private businesses located in Alabama and industry-led, public-private partnerships that support businesses in their efforts to recruit, train, and hire skilled workers, such as Alabama Talent Solutions.
(f) All state agencies and departments shall cooperate with the commission and provide the commission with any information that is requested.

(g) The commission shall complete its studies and submit its written report, including a state workforce plan and recommendations for legislative action, to the Governor and the Legislature no later than January 31, 2024.

(h) All other provisions of Senate Joint Resolution 31 of the 2019 Regular Session (Act 2019-68) shall remain in effect.
SJR78

President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Representatives

SJR78
Senate 18-May-23
I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and passed the Senate.

Patrick Harris,
Secretary.

House of Representatives
Passed: 25-May-23

By: Senator Scofield