

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

AN ACT

RELATING TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT; ENACTING THE RAPID  
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT ACT; CREATING THE RAPID WORKFORCE  
DEVELOPMENT BOARD; CREATING THE RAPID WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT  
FUND; PROVIDING THE BOARD'S POWERS AND DUTIES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.--This act may be cited as the  
"Rapid Workforce Development Act".

SECTION 2. PURPOSE.--The purpose of the Rapid Workforce  
Development Act is to provide resources to quickly establish  
or expand programs in the state's institutions of higher  
education to train and educate New Mexico's workers for  
employment with:

A. existing New Mexico employers that expand their  
workforce; and

B. employers that establish operation in  
New Mexico and create new jobs for New Mexicans.

SECTION 3. DEFINITIONS.--As used in the Rapid Workforce  
Development Act:

A. "board" means the rapid workforce development  
board;

B. "employer" means an individual, corporation,  
federally chartered corporation, limited liability company,  
partnership, nonprofit organization, joint venture,

1 syndicate, association or Indian nation, tribe or pueblo  
2 that:

3 (1) currently transacts business in  
4 New Mexico and wishes to increase the number of people that  
5 it employs; or

6 (2) has chosen New Mexico as a location in  
7 which it will transact business and hire employees;

8 C. "fund" means the rapid workforce development  
9 fund;

10 D. "member" means a member of the board; and

11 E. "workforce" means those people who are  
12 currently engaged in or trained for employment.

13 SECTION 4. RAPID WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD CREATED--  
14 MEMBERSHIP.--The "rapid workforce development board" is  
15 created. The board is administratively attached to the  
16 economic development department and consists of the:

17 A. secretary of economic development or the  
18 secretary's designee;

19 B. secretary of higher education or the  
20 secretary's designee; and

21 C. secretary of workforce solutions or the  
22 secretary's designee.

23 SECTION 5. RAPID WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT FUND CREATED.--  
24 The "rapid workforce development fund" is created in the  
25 state treasury. The fund consists of appropriations and

1 money otherwise accruing to the fund. Money in the fund is  
2 subject to appropriation by the legislature to the economic  
3 development department for use as provided in Section 6 of  
4 the Rapid Workforce Development Act. Money in the fund shall  
5 be disbursed on warrants signed by the secretary of finance  
6 and administration pursuant to vouchers signed by the  
7 secretary of economic development or the secretary's  
8 authorized representative. Any balance remaining in the fund  
9 at the end of a fiscal year shall not revert to the general  
10 fund.

11 SECTION 6. BOARD MEMBER POWERS AND DUTIES.--

12 A. Members are entitled to be reimbursed pursuant  
13 to the Per Diem and Mileage Act and shall receive no other  
14 compensation, perquisite or allowance for service on the  
15 board.

16 B. The secretary of economic development shall:

17 (1) identify employers;

18 (2) work with an employer to determine:

19 (a) the number of New Mexico workers  
20 that the employer will employ when it begins to transact  
21 business in New Mexico or when it increases the number of  
22 workers it already employs in New Mexico; and

23 (b) the job skills, education and  
24 training those workers will require to obtain employment with  
25 the employer; and

1                   (3) upon identification of an employer and  
2 determination of the employer's workforce needs, as provided  
3 in Paragraph (2) of this subsection, convene a meeting of the  
4 board.

5                   C. The secretary of workforce solutions shall  
6 provide, with respect to an employer identified by the  
7 secretary of economic development:

8                   (1) demographic information about the  
9 relevant workforce in New Mexico; and

10                   (2) information about relevant workforce  
11 education and training opportunities that are available  
12 throughout New Mexico, including opportunities offered by or  
13 in connection with state post-secondary educational  
14 institutions.

15                   D. The secretary of higher education shall  
16 provide, with respect to an employer's workforce needs,  
17 information about state post-secondary educational  
18 institutions through which relevant training and education  
19 could be delivered.

20                   E. At a meeting of the board, the members shall:

21                   (1) consider how an employer's plan to begin  
22 transacting business in New Mexico or to increase the number  
23 of people employed by the employer's New Mexico business  
24 would contribute to job creation, employment and economic  
25 development in New Mexico;

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

(2) consider the information provided pursuant to Subsections C and D of this section;

(3) consider whether money in the fund should be used to establish or support a program in a state post-secondary educational institution to train workers for prospective employment with the prospective employer; and

(4) upon unanimous agreement, authorize the secretary of economic development to use money in the fund to establish or support a program in a state post-secondary educational institution to train workers for prospective employment with the prospective employer.

SECTION 7. TERMINATION OF AGENCY LIFE--DELAYED REPEAL.--The board is terminated on July 1, 2023 pursuant to the Sunset Act. The board shall continue to operate according to the provisions of the Rapid Workforce Development Act until July 1, 2024. Effective July 1, 2024, the Rapid Workforce Development Act is repealed.

SECTION 8. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the provisions of this act is July 1, 2016. \_\_\_\_\_