



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Bill Analysis

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H.B. 346

128th General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Reps. Boose and Hall, J. Adams, R. Adams, Amstutz, Baker, Batchelder, Blair, Bubb, Burke, Chandler, Combs, Derickson, Gardner, Goodwin, Grossman, Hite, Hottinger, Huffman, Lehner, Mandel, Martin, McClain, McGregor, Mecklenborg, Morgan, Oelslager, Ruhl, Sears, Snitchler, Stautberg, Stebelton

BILL SUMMARY

- Requires the Department of Job and Family Services to submit annually to the leaders of the General Assembly a copy of the workforce investment report that is submitted to the United States Department of Labor pursuant to the federal Workforce Investment Act.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Administration of the federal Workforce Investment Act under Ohio law

Under continuing law, the Director of Job and Family Services is responsible for administering the federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998, 112 Stat. 999, 29 U.S.C. 2801 et seq. (R.C. 6301.02).¹ Part of administering that federal law requires the Director to prepare and submit to the United States Secretary of Labor a report on the progress of the state and its local areas in achieving state and local performance measures relating to workforce investment activities (29 U.S.C. 2871(d)). The bill requires the Director to also distribute this progress report to the President and Minority Leader of the Ohio Senate and to the Speaker and Minority Leader of the Ohio House of Representatives by December 31, 2009, and by the end of each calendar year thereafter (R.C. 6301.10(B)).

¹ The Workforce Investment Act of 1998 is a federal law under which participating states can receive federal funds for workforce investment activities for youths, adults, and dislocated workers.

Contents of the workforce investment report

The federal Workforce Investment Act requires each state to include the following information in the annual workforce investment report:

(1) Information on the levels of performance achieved by the state with respect to the core indicators of performance,² the customer satisfaction indicator,³ and any other indicators of performance identified by the state in its State Plan, as well as a state adjusted level of performance for each of those indicators (29 U.S.C. 2871(b)(1));

(2) Information on the status of the evaluation study of workforce investment activities that the state must conduct pursuant to 29 U.S.C. 2871(e);⁴

(3) Information on participants in workforce investment activities relating to the following:

² The core indicators of performance for the adult program, the dislocated worker program, and the youth program for eligible youth ages 19 to 21 include: (1) entry into unsubsidized employment, (2) retention in unsubsidized employment six months after entry into the employment, (3) earnings received in unsubsidized employment six months after entry into the employment, and (4) attainment of a recognized credential relating to achievement of educational skills, which may include attainment of a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent, or occupational skills, by participants who enter unsubsidized employment, or by participants who are eligible youth age 19 through 21 who enter postsecondary education, advanced training, or unsubsidized employment.

The core indicators of performance for participants who are eligible youth age 14 through 18 include: (1) attainment of basic skills and, as appropriate, work readiness or occupational skills, (2) attainment of secondary school diplomas and their recognized equivalents, and (3) placement and retention in postsecondary education or advanced training, or placement and retention in military service, employment, or qualified apprenticeships. (29 U.S.C. 2871(b)(2)(A).)

³ The customer satisfaction indicator of performance consists of customer satisfaction of employers and participants with services received from the workforce investment activities and can be measured through surveys conducted after the conclusion of participation in the workforce investment activities (29 U.S.C. 2781(b)(2)(B)).

⁴ Using funds made available under the federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998, each state is required to conduct ongoing evaluation studies of workforce investment activities carried out in the state to promote, establish, implement, and utilize methods for continuously improving the activities to achieve high-level performance within, and high-level outcomes from, the statewide workforce investment system. The evaluation studies must include analysis of customer feedback and outcome and process measures in the statewide workforce investment system. The state must periodically prepare and submit to the State Board (in Ohio, the State Workforce Policy Board established pursuant to R.C. 6301.04) and local boards reports containing the results of evaluation studies. (29 U.S.C. 2781(e).)

- (a) Entry by participants who have completed training services under workforce investment programs into unsubsidized employment related to the training received;
- (b) Wages at entry into employment for participants in workforce investment activities who entered unsubsidized employment, including the rate of wage replacement for those participants who are dislocated workers;
- (c) Cost of workforce investment activities relative to the effect of the activities on the performance of participants;
- (d) Retention and earnings received in unsubsidized employment 12 months after entry into the employment;
- (e) Performance, with respect to the core indicators of performance, of participants in workforce investment activities who received the training services compared with the performance of participants who received only services other than the training services;
- (f) Performance, with respect to the core indicators of performance, of recipients of public assistance, out-of-school youth, veterans, individuals with disabilities, displaced homemakers, and older individuals. (29 U.S.C. 2871(d)(2).)

The United States Secretary of Labor is required under the federal Act to make all of the above information available to the general public through publication and other appropriate methods; disseminate state-by-state comparisons of the information; and provide the appropriate congressional committees with copies of the reports (29 U.S.C. 2871(d)(3)).

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	11-04-09

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