

The State of Wisconsin



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER #127

Relating to Creating the Executive Cabinet for a Quality Workforce

WHEREAS, the National Governors' Association has found that "changes in global economics and national demographics have heightened demands for improvements in this country's workforce development;" and

WHEREAS, the Governor's Commission for a Quality Workforce and other studies have determined that a new long-range strategy for the preparation of Wisconsin's workforce is critical to the state's economic future and to the well-being of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, implementing the policy recommendations of the Commission and other studies will require a coordinated effort of state and local educational, labor and social service agencies as well as private sector business and labor; and

WHEREAS, state government has unique opportunities to foster the coordination needed to establish a sustained workforce readiness initiative;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TOMMY G. THOMPSON, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of this State, and specifically by Wisconsin Statute section 14.019, do hereby:

1. Establish the Executive Cabinet for a Quality Workforce to oversee implementation of a new workforce readiness initiative to ensure that Wisconsin's workforce will be world class by the end of the century.
2. Appoint the following members to the Cabinet:
 - a. The Secretary of the Department of Administration, who shall serve as chairman;
 - b. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction;
 - c. The Secretary of the Department Industry, Labor and Human Relations;
 - d. The Secretary of the Department of Health and Social Services;
 - e. The State Director of the Wisconsin Board for Vocational, Technical and Adult Education;
 - f. A member of the University of Wisconsin Board of Regents;
 - g. The chairman of the Governor's Commission for a Quality Workforce;
 - h. The President of Wisconsin Manufacturers and Commerce; and
 - i. The President of the Wisconsin AFL-CIO.

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Legislative Reference
Bureau

3. Direct that the Executive Cabinet for a Quality Workforce shall:
- a. Identify and implement, in cooperation with the Department of Public Instruction, the Wisconsin Board of Vocational, Technical and Adult Education, employers and labor, the education and training policy options needed to prepare high school-age youth for entry into a skilled workforce and other postsecondary career options. These options should include programs to better prepare these youth for entry into postsecondary education programs (tech-prep and academic prep) and for direct entry into the workforce or apprenticeship programs through work-based learning (e.g. youth apprenticeship programs);
 - b. Identify barriers limiting minorities, women and disabled persons access to high skill, high wage employment and design strategies to overcome these barriers.
 - c. Facilitate the effort to implement in statute, by 1995-96, requirements for a Certificate of Initial Mastery as recommended by the Commission for a Quality Workforce as a prerequisite for participation in job-training opportunities for high school-age youth;
 - d. Identify and implement, in cooperation with the Wisconsin Department of Industry, Labor and Human Relations, employers and labor, the training policies and programs needed to reskill the existing workforce and the unemployed;
 - e. Work with the Vocational, Technical and Adult Education system and employers across the state to improve access to training;
 - f. Contribute to the development of educational and training programs responsive to changing employer skill needs;
 - g. Report annually to the Governor and Legislature on the progress of Wisconsin's workforce readiness initiative; and
 - h. Advise the Governor on Legislative initiatives needed to improve this.
4. Direct the state agencies represented on the Cabinet to provide staff support for the Cabinet.
5. Direct the Secretary of the Department of Administration to provide the Cabinet with sums of money that are necessary and proper for the legitimate travel and operating expenses of the Cabinet under Section 20.505(3)(a) of the Wisconsin Statutes.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this third day of September in the year one thousand nine hundred and ninety-one.


TOMMY G. THOMPSON
Governor

By the Governor:


DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE
Secretary of State