

1 HB170  
2 189609-3  
3 By Representatives Baker, Collins and Nordgren  
4 RFD: Economic Development and Tourism  
5 First Read: 11-JAN-18

1  
2 ENROLLED, An Act,

3 Relating to workforce development; to amend Sections  
4 41-29-290, 41-29-291, and 41-29-300, Code of Alabama 1975; to  
5 add certain enumerated public officials and boards to the list  
6 of entities supported by the Alabama Workforce Council; to  
7 revise the membership of the Alabama Workforce Council; and to  
8 revise qualifications for members of the regional workforce  
9 development councils.

10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

11 Section 1. Sections 41-29-290, 41-29-291, and  
12 41-29-300, Code of Alabama 1975, are amended to read as  
13 follows:

14 "§41-29-290.

15 "The Alabama Workforce Council is continued in  
16 existence as a part of the Workforce Development Division of  
17 the Department of Commerce. The council is responsible for  
18 advising and supporting the Governor, the Secretary of  
19 Commerce, the Secretary of Labor, the regional workforce  
20 development councils, the Alabama Workforce Innovation and  
21 Opportunity Act Board, the Chancellor of the Alabama Community  
22 College System, the Superintendent of the Alabama Department  
23 of Education, and the Council of College and University  
24 Presidents. The Alabama Workforce Council will serve as an  
25 advisory body in formulating policies, developing innovative

1 educational workforce programming, and discussing issues  
2 critical to the workforce development needs in the State of  
3 Alabama. Furthermore, the council will promote, coordinate,  
4 and collaborate across prekindergarten-12, two-year colleges,  
5 four-year universities, and business and industry.

6 "§41-29-291.

7 "(a) The Alabama Workforce Council shall consist of  
8 the following members: ~~and shall reflect the racial, gender,~~  
9 ~~geographic, urban and rural, and economic diversity of the~~  
10 ~~state.~~

11 "(1) ~~Two~~ Fourteen members appointed by the Governor.

12 "(2) One member appointed by the Lieutenant  
13 Governor.

14 "(3) One member appointed by the Speaker of the  
15 House of Representatives.

16 "(4) One member appointed by the President Pro  
17 Tempore of the Senate.

18 "~~(5) One member from each of the regions that~~  
19 ~~comprise the regional workforce development councils of~~  
20 ~~Alabama appointed by the Governor.~~

21 "~~(6)~~ (5) The Deputy Secretary of the Workforce  
22 Development Division of the Department of Commerce shall be an  
23 ex officio member of the council, l but shall have no voting  
24 rights.

1           "~~(7)~~(6) The Vice Chancellor for Workforce and  
 2 Economic Development of the Alabama Community College System  
 3 shall be an ex officio member of the council, but shall have  
 4 no voting rights.

5           "~~(8)~~(7) The Deputy State Superintendent of  
 6 Education, Career and Technical Education/Workforce  
 7 Development Division shall be an ex officio member of the  
 8 council, but shall have no voting rights.

9           "(8) The Executive Director of the Alabama  
 10 Commission on Higher Education shall be an ex officio member  
 11 of the council, but shall have no voting rights.

12           "(9) The Secretary of Labor or his or her designee  
 13 shall be an ex officio member of the council, but shall have  
 14 no voting rights.

15           "(10) The Chair of the Alabama Workforce Innovation  
 16 and Opportunity Act Board shall be an ex officio member of the  
 17 council, but shall have no voting rights.

18           "(11) The Executive Director of one of the regional  
 19 workforce development councils shall be an ex officio member  
 20 of the Alabama Workforce Council, but shall have no voting  
 21 rights. Each executive director shall serve on the Alabama  
 22 Workforce Council for a period of one year, rotating annually  
 23 in numerical order, beginning with Region 1. The term of the  
 24 executive director shall begin on July 1 and continue until  
 25 June 30 of the following year. The initial member shall be the

1 Executive Director of the Region 1 Workforce Development  
 2 Council whose term shall begin July 1, 2018.

3 ~~"(9)(b) The Governor shall have the authority to may~~  
 4 ~~appoint additional members to the council when necessary as~~  
 5 ~~deemed appropriate, but at no time may the council be~~  
 6 ~~comprised of more than 35 appointed members.~~

7 "(c) The council shall be business-driven and  
 8 business-led. The appointing authorities shall coordinate  
 9 their appointments to assure that at least 75 percent of the  
 10 voting council members are employed by business and industry,  
 11 that at least two individuals from each of the regions that  
 12 comprise the regional workforce development councils are  
 13 voting members, and that council membership is inclusive and  
 14 reflects the racial, gender, geographic, urban, rural, and  
 15 economic diversity of the state.

16 "§41-29-300.

17 "(a) The Regional Workforce Development Councils are  
 18 hereby established as an appointed group of state business and  
 19 industry senior managers. The Regional Workforce Development  
 20 Councils shall be appointed from ~~no less than six and no more~~  
 21 ~~than 10~~ the seven regions. The Deputy Secretary of the  
 22 Workforce Development Division of the Department of Commerce  
 23 and the Chancellor of the Alabama Community College System  
 24 shall jointly promulgate rules related to the establishment  
 25 and governance of these councils. The Deputy Secretary of the

1 Workforce Development Division of the Department of Commerce  
2 shall follow the operating guidelines previously adopted by  
3 the Workforce Development Division of the Alabama Community  
4 College System (WDD/ACCS). The Regional Workforce Development  
5 Councils shall provide a direct link to the workforce needs of  
6 business and industry at the local level. The councils shall  
7 be business-driven and business-led and work with their member  
8 counties and shall develop a regional strategic plan and  
9 comprehensive workforce development system that supports local  
10 economic and job development activities. At least 75 percent  
11 of the members of each regional council shall be employed by  
12 business and industry.

13 "(b) The Regional Workforce Development Councils  
14 shall make funding recommendations for grant applications  
15 submitted, based on the documented needs of the region as  
16 identified in their strategic plans.

17 "(c) Each council shall meet at least quarterly, but  
18 may meet more frequently upon the call of the chair. Members  
19 of each council may participate in a meeting of the council by  
20 means of conference telephone, video conference, or similar  
21 communications equipment by means of which all persons  
22 participating in the meeting may hear each other at the same  
23 time. Participation by such means shall constitute presence in  
24 person at a meeting for all purposes, including the  
25 establishment of a quorum.

1           "(d) The objectives of the Regional Workforce  
2 Development Councils are to:

3           "(1) Promote a workforce development system in the  
4 region through the development of communication strategies  
5 among agencies and by advancing initiatives that support the  
6 efficient and effective use of resources.

7           "(2) Assess current and future workforce needs of  
8 employers in the region. Establish a strategic plan to meet  
9 capacity and skill development and training needs in the  
10 region and ensure that the investment of public workforce  
11 development funds are addressing priority needs in the region.

12           "(3) Partner with workforce development service  
13 providers, including the two-year colleges, or other workforce  
14 development regions in planning and developing actions to  
15 address specific workforce development priorities.

16           "(4) Serve as a co-applicant for workforce  
17 development funds requested through the WDD/ACCS.

18           "(5) Monitor effectiveness of state-funded and  
19 federally funded training projects in the region and the  
20 impact on overall workforce and economic development.

21           "(6) Assist in examining the service delivery  
22 structure and coordination among entities providing workforce  
23 development services in the region.

24           "(7) Expand the resource base available for  
25 workforce development in the region.

1           "(8) Coordinate planning with economic developers  
2 and elected officials to ensure that workforce development  
3 strategies support economic development goals in the region.

4           "(9) Serve as an advocate for high quality workforce  
5 development activities in the region.

6           "(10) Assist the WDD/ACCS in establishing practices  
7 that ensure high quality training and services are provided in  
8 the region. The Regional Workforce Development Councils will  
9 utilize the WDD/ACCS as the provider of high quality training  
10 and services, unless otherwise restricted by law, rule, or  
11 regulation."

12           Section 2. This act shall become effective on the  
13 first day of the third month following its passage and  
14 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.



