



Illinois Workforce Innovation Board

Bruce Rauner, Governor

John Rico, Co-Chair
Sean McCarthy, Co-Chair

Action Item to Create a Strategic Planning Task Force September 15, 2016

Background Information:

Under WIOA, State workforce boards are to act as conveners of the workforce system and have a more strategic role in ensuring it is well-positioned to meet state, regional, and local employers' workforce needs. It is envisioned that this will occur by the state board implementing the state unified vision and shared principles for workforce, education, and economic development; giving guidance and direction for the alignment of programs and services that will result in a coordinated, comprehensive, and integrated system for employers and job seekers; and providing oversight to ensure expanded accountability and transparency of the system.

Functions that support the State workforce board's efforts in providing strategic leadership of the workforce development system include:

- Ensuring the implementation of the strategies outlined in the Unified State Plan support the statewide vision and guiding principles.
- Recommending and reviewing statewide policies leads to alignment and integration of services within the system.
- Establishing benchmarks that drive continuous improvement of the workforce development system.
- Identifying and disseminating best practices.

At the June IWIB Retreat, members began discussing how best to proceed in a strategic planning process that will solidify the IWIB as the keeper of the guiding vision and the driver of the system to ensure the alignment of workforce, education, and economic development leads to a roadmap for board members to put into place a sound operational structure that will ensure the expanded functions under WIOA are carried out.

To build upon and continue the strategic work began at the retreat, the IWIB Executive Committee is recommending the establishment of a task force that will take the lead in coordinating the strategic planning efforts. Specifically, this will include securing a facilitator to guide the IWIB through the Strategic Planning Process, coordinating with the State Inter-Agency Workgroup and other interested parties, and developing recommendations for the board.

A request for technical assistance for this strategic planning process has been sent to the U.S. Department of Labor Region 5 for approval. If approved, this request would allow the

IWIB to quickly move into the next phase of the strategic planning through an analysis that will inform the IWIB goals and objectives as well as the key strategies and indicators that will promote continuous improvement

Action Required

Approve the creation of a Task Force to lead the strategic planning efforts of the IWIB that will establish the board as the system leaders for guiding the implementation of the Unified State plan, recommending policy change and creating investment opportunities in sectors and career pathways that serve employer needs.