

Minutes

RED TAPE REDUCTION WORKING GROUP (RTRWG)

Monday, April 23, 2018

10:00 A.M.

Big Mac Building

5th Floor Room-B

Little Rock, Arkansas

Committee Members Present

Senator John Cooper, Co-Chair, Representative Bruce Cozart, Co-Chair; Senators Jane English, Bart Hester, Missy Irvin and Trent Garner; Representatives LeAnne Burch, Milton Nicks, Jeff Williams, and Richard Womack; Daryl Basset, Arkansas Department of Workforce Services (ADWS); Brian Bowen, Attorney General's Office; Dr. Charisse Childers, Arkansas Career Education (ACE); Lula Dixon, Retired Licensed Social Worker (LSW)/Consumer Representative; Bill Gossage, Governor's Office; and Bob Kucheravy, Arkansas Economic Development Commission (AEDC)/Consumer Representative.

Committee Members Absent

Leon Jones, Arkansas Department of Labor (ADOL)

Representative Cozart called the meeting to order

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to accept and approve the minutes from the March 26, 2018, RTRWG meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.

Database, Website and Survey Updates--Dr. Derek Slagle

Dr. Derek Slagle presented information on the recent survey conducted of Advisory Group members. Key points included:

- Approximately two-thirds responded to the survey with a 64% response rate;
- An overwhelming majority of those responding do not believe licensing costs are too high and do not feel occupational licensing is a problem in Arkansas; and
- While a majority believe structural change in how the state handles licensing is somewhat important, a majority say they would not support the establishment of a centralized agency to manage and monitor occupational licensing.

Discussion followed regarding whether the survey, based on the limited number of entities/individuals surveyed, provides a true representation of viewpoints on licensing in

Arkansas. The consensus was the group would like to have the survey expanded out to different occupational licensing agencies/entities. The survey may be expanded in the future for greater input.

There was also discussion and questions for Dr. Slagle in reference to needed corrections on the handout. The discussion was tabled for corrections, and the revised document will be emailed.

Update from Advisory Group Chairman

Mr. Gary Isom, Advisory Group Chairman, spoke to the Working Group. Key points included:

- The Advisory Group is broken down into four subcommittees;
 - Labor Market—Attracting employees, accessibility and availability;
 - Consumer Services—Education, protection, and financial impact;
 - Survey and Information—Data collection and verification; and
 - Regulation Review—Utilizing technology to improve and expedite the licensing process and to consider alternatives to licensing(i.e., Certification and Registration).

Discussion followed regarding how the entities represented on the Advisory Group were selected.

Discussion from The Working Group

Discussion ensued regarding the potential next steps moving forward and how best to obtain needed information from Arkansas's licensing entities.

Other Business

The Working Group scheduled the next meeting for May 21, 2018, Big Mac Building Room-B.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.