

Minutes

RED TAPE REDUCTION WORKING GROUP (RTRWG)

Wednesday, February 21, 2018

3:30 P.M.

Room 138, State Capitol

Little Rock, Arkansas

Committee Members Present

Senator John Cooper, Co-Chair; Representative Bruce Cozart, Co-Chair; Senators Trent Garner, Bart Hester, and Missy Irvin; Representatives LeAnne Burch, Milton Nicks, Jeff Williams, and Richard Womack; Dr. Charisse Childers, Arkansas Department of Career Education (ADCE); Ms. Lula Dixon, Retired Licensed Social Worker (LSW)/Consumer Representative; Bill Gossage, Governor's Office; Mr. Leon Jones, Arkansas Department of Labor (ADOL); and Mr. Bob Kucheravy, Arkansas Economic Development Commission (AEDC)/Consumer Representative.

Sen. Cooper and Rep. Cozart called the meeting to order, recognized the RTRWG members and allowed for introductions.

Governor's Remarks

Rep. Cozart introduced the Governor of Arkansas, Asa Hutchinson. The Governor spoke briefly and provided the RTRWG with its charge.

Discussion of the Occupational Licensing Learning Consortium (OLLC)

Ms. Suzanne Hultin, National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), gave an overview of the OLLC. It is funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) with support from the NCSL, Council of State Governments (CSG), and National Governor's Association (NGA).

Ms. Robin Voss and Mr. Buddy Johnson (OLLC Core Team members) briefed the RTRWG on the State's involvement in the Consortium, the establishment of an Advisory Group and the role of the Advisory Group in supporting the efforts of the RTRWG. In an effort to ensure that decisions and recommendations are data driven, the RTRWG may use the Advisory Group as a resource for acquiring and ensuring the validity of information considered and for feedback throughout the initiative. The RTRWG was provided a handout with the list of Advisory Group members

and an additional handout outlining the feedback received from the Advisory Group at its January 26, 2018, meeting.

The Rules of Procedure Adoption

The RTRWG Rules of Procedure were presented for consideration. A motion was made and seconded to adopt, and the Rules of Procedure were adopted.

Discussion of RTRWG Resources

RTRWG members were provided a handout listing digital resources available to them at this time. The list will also be emailed to members to access the resources via the document's imbedded digital links. This is a working document, and the list of resources will likely become more extensive in the future. Mr. Johnson provided an overview of the resources listed.

Sen. Cooper provided an overview of the data that has been requested to date and is expected to be provided to the RTRWG prior to its next meeting. Discussion followed regarding:

- The need to consider the impact of regulation on the reciprocity rates of offenders;
- The need to consider the impact of regulation on the mobility of veterans and military spouses;
- Potential for the need for structural changes with regard to occupational licensing framework in Arkansas;
- Opportunity for those serving on boards and those representing an entity on the Advisory Group to examine their respective structures/regulations and make recommendations for change of any that don't serve a valid purpose;
- Opportunity to reach out to schools/workforce preparatory entities for a list of unnecessary regulations or duplication of regulations of which they are aware; and
- Resources provided by the DOL grant to support travel related expenses for RTRWG member meeting attendance.

Other Business

The timeline for the RTRWG's report was discussed with a November 30, 2018, deadline for submission of the report to the Governor.

Future Meeting Dates

The Advisory Group is expected to meet again in March, and Rep. Cozart recommended that an email be sent to the Advisory Group with updates or requests in advance of and in preparation for their March meeting. Members were advised to email Buddy Johnson or Robin Voss with any data requests or questions they would like asked of the Advisory Group.

The RTRWG is expected to meet again in April. Mr. Johnson stated that a selection of proposed meeting dates for the RTRWG will be emailed to the group soon to be considered for scheduling of the next RTRWG meeting.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:45 pm.