



**MEETING OF THE
TEXAS WORKFORCE COMMISSION**

DATE

DECEMBER 12, 2023

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Tuesday, December 12, 2023

CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Good afternoon. This meeting is called to order. Mr. Trobman, has anyone signed up for public comment?

CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Thank you, sir. Good afternoon, Ms. Miller.

MS. MILLER: Good afternoon, sir.

CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Thank you. We'll take a short recess. All right, we're back. This is Agenda Item 9, Industry-Based Certification Advisory Council Inventory.

KERRY BALLAST: Good afternoon, Chairman Daniel, Commissioner Treviño, Commissioner Esparza, and Mr. Serna. For the record, Kerry Ballast, Workforce Development Division. House Bill 3938 of the 87th Texas Legislature created the Industry-Based Certification Advisory Council. The Council is made up of nine individuals representing industry and public secondary CTE programs and postsecondary CTE programs. House Bill 3938 charges the Council with creating an inventory of industry-recognized credentials. Today staff brings forward the Council's inventory and an overview of the Council's process in developing that inventory. At this time staff requests the commission's adoption of the 2023 inventory of industry-recognized credentials.

CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Comments or questions?

COMMISSIONER TREVIÑO: None here.

1 COMMISSIONER ESPARZA: No questions.

2 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Is there a motion?

3 COMMISSIONER TREVIÑO: I move we adopt the
4 Industry-Based Certification Advisory Council's inventory of
5 industry-recognized credentials and certificates pursuant to
6 Texas Labor Code Section 312.003.

7 COMMISSIONER ESPARZA: Second.

8 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: It's been moved and
9 seconded and the vote is unanimous. Thank you. This is Agenda
10 Item 10, WIOA Combined State Plan for program years 2024 through
11 2027.

12 JOEL MULLINS: Good afternoon, chairman,
13 commissioners, Mr. Serna. For the record, I'm Joel Mullins with
14 the Workforce Development Division. Before you today is the
15 Combined State Plan for the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity
16 Act covering program years 2024 through 2027. The plan outlines
17 the state's four-year strategy for WIOA core programs which
18 include WIOA Adult Dislocated Worker and Youth, the Wagner-
19 Peyser Employment Service including the agricultural outreach
20 plan, Adult Education and Literacy and Vocational Rehabilitation
21 as well as one partner program, the Senior Community Service
22 Employment Program. Today staff is seeking approval to post the
23 WIOA Combined State Plan for program years 2024 to 2027 for a
24 30-day public comment period, and I'm happy to answer any
25 questions.

1 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Comments or questions?

2 COMMISSIONER TREVIÑO: None here.

3 COMMISSIONER ESPARZA: I have a question.

4 This was a hearing meeting, an item we had heard in 11-21. This
5 is the combined state plan. I think the chairman had some issues
6 that he addressed were for those he raised, were those issues
7 addressed and could you give me a high overview of the type of
8 information that was corrected?

9 JOEL MULLINS: Yeah, there were a number of
10 things in the economic and workforce analysis section. We
11 updated some of the data so that it was more recent. There were
12 some—just a couple of inconsistencies in a few places in how we
13 were defining the Texas Workforce system and made sure that we
14 got some of the terminology consistent around our Apprenticeship
15 Texas program and [inaudible].

16 COMMISSIONER ESPARZA: I'm satisfied. No
17 questions. Thank you very much for that response.

18 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: I just say thank you to
19 Joel and his team. They did go through and make some significant
20 improvements to the report. I think it's a good starting place
21 for us as we're kind of telling our story about how we keep
22 Texas's economic successes going so good that it's—we actually
23 found a couple other things when we dug into it. It looks really
24 good. I was going to have you just, you know, read through the
25 report starting with page one but I—

1 JOEL MULLINS: I would be happy to do that
2 but-

3 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: No, commissioner, it's
4 never too late.

5 COMMISSIONER ESPARZA: I appreciate your
6 willingness.

7 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: But I don't think we have
8 to do that today. I appreciate all the work that went into it.
9 It's a big document. It's like 300 and some pages, and really
10 does kind of lay out our plan for how things are going to
11 happen. I know we'll get some opportunities to update this. I
12 know there's some reports on this. There's lots of opportunities
13 for us to tell our story. This is sort of how I think we come
14 together and be able to get that done so thank you. Is there a
15 motion on the action today?

16 COMMISSIONER TREVIÑO: Chairman, I move that
17 we approve the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Combined
18 State Plan for program years 2024 to 2027 for posting for a 30-
19 day public comment period as recommended today by staff.

20 COMMISSIONER ESPARZA: I second.

21 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: It's unanimous. Thank you.

22 JOEL MULLINS: All right, thank you.

23 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: This is Agenda Item 11,
24 Apprenticeship-Related Instruction Cost Study.

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1 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: It's been moved and
2 seconded and it's unanimous. Thank you. This is Agenda Item 12,
3 WIOA Statewide Funding for Dislocated Workers Transitioning from
4 Fort Cavazos.

5 SANDRA WILLIAMS: Good afternoon,
6 commissioners, Mr. Serna. For the record, Sandra Williams,
7 Workforce Development Division. The Central Texas Workforce
8 Development Board was awarded a national dislocated worker grant
9 by the U.S. Department of Labor Employment and Training or
10 DOLETA on December 1, 2001, due to the need resulting from
11 dislocations from Fort Cavazos. This grant ended November 30,
12 2023. Participants in this grant have included dislocated
13 workers who are service members and military spouses dislocating
14 from the Fort Cavazos U.S. military base. On August 30, 2023,
15 the Texas Workforce Commission on behalf of the Board applied
16 for another emergency recovery national dislocated worker grant
17 from DOLETA to assist with this need. Staff is currently
18 recommending providing the Board \$750,000 in additional
19 statewide funds to the Board to provide training in these
20 targeted occupations and support services for new and currently
21 enrolled individuals who are transitioning or military spouses
22 from Fort Cavazos for the period December 2023 through March
23 2024. I'm happy to answer any questions.

24 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Comments or questions?

25 COMMISSIONER TREVIÑO: None here.

1 COMMISSIONER ESPARZA: No sir, no.

2 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: I have a couple questions.
3 The first question is when do we expect to hear from the
4 Department of Labor on the grant that we've applied for?

5 SANDRA WILLIAMS: We are hoping to hear at
6 any point in time.

7 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: And you said the first
8 grant was in effect from what year to what year?

9 SANDRA WILLIAMS: 2021 to 2023.

10 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Are they typically two-
11 year grants?

12 SANDRA WILLIAMS: Yes.

13 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: OK. So in the event that
14 we approve this \$750,000 today, what happens if we don't get the
15 next grant? How will they—how's the Board going to continue this
16 following that if they don't get the next grant?

17 SANDRA WILLIAMS: If they do not get the
18 grant, we will be working with the Board to see what we can do
19 to assist them. Unfortunately, many of the services may end up
20 winding down.

21 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: OK, all right. Is there a
22 motion?

23 COMMISSIONER TREVIÑO: Chairman, I move we
24 approve the \$750,000 in additional Workforce Innovation and
25 Opportunity Act funds to be provided to the Central Texas

1 Workforce Development Board for training dislocated workers
2 transitioning from Fort Cavazos in target occupations and
3 support services for new and currently enrolled individuals from
4 December 2023 through March 2024 as recommended today by staff.

5 COMMISSIONER ESPARZA: I second the approval
6 of funding for the program.

7 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: It's been moved and
8 seconded, and the motion carries.

9 SANDRA WILLIAMS: Thank you.

10 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: An executive director's
11 report.

12 MR. SERNA: Just a brief one to recognize
13 three of the agency staff, the first being the chairman who
14 spoke today at the IT Leadership Forum to discuss workforce, and
15 then two of our IT employees who received IT Leadership Awards
16 at that same forum, Omesh Pertob in infrastructure services, and
17 Richard Yashewski, sorry, guys, if I messed up your names, in
18 application solutions. Both of them were recognized with
19 leadership awards at that same event so we're very pleased about
20 that, and your participation in the event.

21 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: It probably left a lasting
22 mark, my participation. I'm really proud of the awards though.
23 That's good stuff. It was a big group today. All right, any
24 other order of business to come before the commission?
25

1 COMMISSIONER TREVIÑO: I've just got one
2 more, chairman. I just want to introduce to everybody an
3 attorney that's going to be full time with our group. It's Josh
4 Brooks. He's actually been working with my office since I first
5 started as a temporary but he's finally agreed to come on board
6 and join the team so I appreciate it. Josh, thank you for all
7 your hard work.

8 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: Anything else? Is there a
9 motion to adjourn?

10 COMMISSIONER TREVIÑO: Chairman, I move to
11 adjourn.

12 COMMISSIONER ESPARZA: Second.

13 CHAIRMAN DANIEL: It's been moved and
14 seconded to adjourn and we're adjourned.

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