

SPECIAL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ON WORKFORCE EXPANSION AND DEVELOPMENT MINUTES

Meeting Date/Location: Monday, July 24, 2023, 3:30 pm, virtually via Microsoft Teams and Room 10, Vermont State House, 115 State Street, Montpelier, VT

Members Present: Adam Grinold, Kendal Smith, Rep. Michael Marcotte, Sen. Alison Clarkson

Guests Present: Dustin Degree, Ron Painter, Mel Arsenault, Mike Harrington, Ellen Kahler, Linda Lambert, Porsche Tyson, Michael Lawrence, Alysia Ordway

Minutes By: Amanda Wheeler

Video Recording: <https://aoa.vermont.gov/content/special-oversight-committee-workforce-expansion-and-development>

- Meeting called to order and introductions given from Committee members, PCG and guests present.
- Review and approval of agenda.
 - Moved by Senator Clarkson, seconded by Kendal Smith, unanimously approved.
- Review and approval of minutes from the [July 24, 2023 meeting](#).
 - Moved by Kendal Smith, seconded by Adam Grinold, unanimously approved.
- PCG presentation of preliminary phase 2 report.
 - Alysia recapped that PCG received feedback on the previously proposed models. Through their presentation today they will present a broader range of model types and choices to the group, receive feedback, with the goal of having a finalized report in October.
 - Alysia walked through the four model proposals and committee members asked clarifying questions throughout the presentation.
- Committee discussion of phase 2 report
 - Kendal noted that she continues to like the concept of reimagining and elevating the Board.
 - Representative Marcotte voiced that regardless of the model chosen, we need to consider changes to the SWDB. Right now, the Board is too big to be able to act quickly. Whichever staffing model is chosen, we need to make sure the Executive Director has direct access to the Governor, not just the Commissioner of Labor.
 - Adam Grinold noted that regardless of the staffing model, we want to make sure we recognize the importance of employer needs.
 - Kendal Smith asked PCG which model they recommend and why?
 - PCG's top recommendation is to create a Governor's Workforce Commission (model 3), to draw on senior level individuals who represent various constituencies and can mobilize quickly. PCG also noted that a legislative reporting mandate is important and should clarify which data is most important and how those outcomes are defined annually.
 - PCG recommends a Data Warehouse model which will enable Vermont to get a full picture, recognizing partnerships across titles. Colorado has created a similar model.
 - Jay Ramsey noted that currently data systems exist in silos and without a coordinated plan for the data, we run the risk of data continuing to be as it has been.

- Senator Clarkson noted that a data warehouse would allow us to see how effective programs are long-term.
 - PCG walked through economic drivers' portion of presentation.
- Public Comment
 - Dustin Degree and Ellen Kahler provided comments and thoughts on the various models and concepts (e.g., data warehouse) throughout the meeting.
- Next Steps
 - PCG summarized the approaches laid out in the presentation. They noted that integration and communication will both be important in whichever model is selected. The best, boldest statement would be moving toward Model 3 alongside a consideration for investing in the data warehouse concept.
 - The Committee plans to meet in early October to review the final report from PCG and further discuss the financial aspect of the models. This will provide enough time for legislative members to meet legislative drafting deadlines.
 - No immediate meeting date or time was set, members will coordinate schedules in the coming weeks.
- Adjourn.

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