



NEBRASKA
PUBLICATIONS
SINGLE COPY CLEARINGHOUSE

JUN 03 1998

NEBRASKA LIBRARY COMMISSION
LINCOLN, NE 68508

STATE *of* NEBRASKA
EXECUTIVE OFFICE

LINCOLN

EXECUTIVE ORDER
97-5

WHEREAS, the effective, efficient operation of state government requires workforce development activities and efforts to be considered and managed as a strategic resource; and,

WHEREAS, goals and guidelines for a coordination and collaboration infrastructure among workforce partners should be established; and,

WHEREAS, the variety of employment and training programs available in Nebraska present numerous opportunities to more effectively manage, through coordination, the workforce development needs of the employer and applicant community; and,

WHEREAS, workforce development demands are changing and advancing at a very rapid rate, increasing the emphasis placed upon government to be a responsive partner; and,

WHEREAS, investments in the workforce development infrastructure are required to develop and maintain the foundation for effective use of the limited workforce development resources available throughout state government in Nebraska; and,

WHEREAS, the nature and provision of the public assistance system has changed to focus on mobilizing business and governmental communities to promote long-term, permanent employment as a means of encouraging personal responsibility and strengthening families; and,

WHEREAS, a Council should be formed to bring together the broad range of stakeholders to provide state-level coordination and integration among federal and state workforce development policies and programs, and to establish goals and guidelines for the development of a single state plan for the delivery of workforce development services and make recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature of the effective use of resources,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, E. Benjamin Nelson, Governor of the State of Nebraska, do hereby issue the following Executive Order:

1. The Human Resources Investment Council (HRIC) is hereby created. Membership of the HRIC shall be comprised as follows:
 - (a) Commissioner, Nebraska Department of Labor;
 - (b) Director, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services;

- (c) Director, Nebraska Department of Economic Development;
- (d) Commissioner, Nebraska Department of Education;
- (e) representation from local public education;
- (f) representation from post-secondary institutions;
- (g) representation from secondary or post-secondary vocational education institutions;
- (h) representation from community-based organizations;
- (i) representation from business and industry;
- (j) representation from organized labor;
- (k) representation from local welfare agencies;
- (l) representation from public housing agencies;
- (m) representation from units of general local government or consortiums;
- (n) representation from State or local programs affected hereby; and
- (o) an individual possessing special knowledge and qualifications with respect to special education and the career development needs of hard-to-serve individuals.

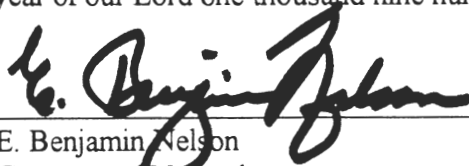
The HRIC and its staff shall have sufficient expertise to effectively carry out the duties and functions of existing state councils described under the laws relating to the applicable federal human resource programs. Such expertise shall include, where appropriate, knowledge of:

- (a) the long-term needs of individuals preparing to enter the workforce;
- (b) the needs of local, state, and regional markets;
- (c) the methods for evaluating the effectiveness of vocational training programs in serving varying populations; and,
- (d) the employment needs of Nebraska businesses.

2. The chairperson of the HRIC shall come from the business and industry category, and shall be designated by the Governor, to serve at the pleasure of the Governor.
3. The Nebraska Department of Labor, through its State Job Training Administration, shall provide the services of such professional, technical and clerical personnel as may be necessary to carry out the duties and functions imposed hereby on the HRIC.
4. The HRIC shall have the responsibility to:
 - (a) Carry out the duties, functions, and responsibilities as set forth in Section 701 of Job Training Partnership Act, as amended by the Job Training Reform Amendments of 1992 (Public Law 102-367);
 - (b) Carry out the duties and responsibilities prescribed for state government under the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act, 1996 (Public Law 104-193);
 - (c) Review the provision of services and the use of funds and resources under applicable federal human resource programs and advise the Governor on methods of coordinating such provision of services and use of funds and resources consistent with the laws and regulations governing such programs;
 - (d) Advise the Governor on the development and implementation of state and local standards and measures relating to applicable federal human resource programs and coordination of such standards and measures;
 - (e) Carry out the duties and functions prescribed for existing state councils described under the laws relating to the applicable federal human resource programs;
 - (f) Identify the human investment needs of the state and recommend to the Governor goals for meeting such needs;


- (g) Recommend to the Governor goals for the development and coordination of the human resource system in the state;
 - (h) Prepare and recommend to the Governor a strategic plan to accomplish the goals developed pursuant to paragraphs (f) and (g);
 - (i) Monitor the implementation of and evaluate the effectiveness of the strategic plan prepared pursuant to paragraph (h); and
 - (j) Provide such other powers, duties and functions as may be authorized by subsequent Executive Order.
5. In order to carry out the various duties and functions imposed upon it herein, the HRIC shall be, and hereby is, authorized and empowered to:
- (a) use any funds available under the applicable federal human resource programs, for any purpose consistent with, and permitted by, the laws and regulations governing such programs, including funds available to carry out Section 123(a)(2)(D) of the JTPA, as amended, all as provided in Section 703(a) of the JTPA, as amended;
 - (b) use funds, services, personnel, facilities and information provided by state and local public agencies, with the consent of such agencies, and
 - (c) use funds made available for such purpose by each state agency participating on the HRIC in a manner consistent with its representations on such Council.
6. The Nebraska Job Training Council (NJTC) Executive Committee will assist in the transition to the new HRIC to ensure compliance with JTPA laws, rules and regulations, and further to maintain the integrity of the State's JTPA program. The NJTC will continue to exist and function until such time as the Governor disbands the NJTC by Executive Order, which, in any event, shall not occur until all members of the HRIC have been duly appointed by the Governor.
7. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the Great Seal of the State of Nebraska to be affixed this 17th day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and ninety-seven.



E. Benjamin Nelson
Governor of Nebraska

ATTEST:



Scott Moore
Secretary of State

