

Workforce Information Advisory Council

Summary of Virtual Meeting

November 6, 2024

3:00 PM - 5:00 PM EST

The Workforce Information Advisory Council (WIAC) convened for a virtual meeting at 3:00 PM on Wednesday November 6, 2024. The Council was convened pursuant to Section 308 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 (WIOA) (Pub. L. 113-128), which amends section 15 of the Wagner-Peyser Act of 1933 (29 U.S.C. § 491-2) and in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended (5 U.S.C. App.) and its implementing regulation at 41 CFR 102-3.

Mr. Steven Rietzke, Chief, Division of National Programs, Tools, and Technical Assistance (DNPTTA), Employment and Training Administration (ETA), U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) and Designated Federal Officer (DFO) for the Council, convened the meeting. The entirety of the meeting was recorded and open to the public and concluded at 5:00 PM on Wednesday, November 6, 2024.

In Attendance:

Members of the Workforce Information Advisory Council

Lesley Hirsch, New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development (Chair)

Anna Hui, Missouri Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (Vice Chair)

Larry Bulman, United Association

Andrew Conrad, University of Northern Iowa Institute for Decision Making

Ginger Crawford, Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

Julia Lane, Wagner School of Public Policy, New York University

Adam Leonard, Texas Workforce Commission

Corretta Pettway, Ohio Department of Job and Family Services

David Schmidt, Nevada Department of Employment, Training, and Rehabilitation

Bob Uhlenkott, Oregon Employment Department

Chris Kim, Workday

Bruce Ferguson, CareerSource Northeast Florida

Angelina Nguyen, Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development

Members of the Council Not in Attendance:

Charisse Childers, Arkansas Department of Workforce Services

Invited Speakers:

N/A

Staff:

Steve Rietzke, Chief, DNPTTA, ETA (DFO)

Don Haughton, ETA

Lauren Fairley, ETA

Pam Frugoli, ETA

Julie Hatch Maxfield, Bureau of Labor Statistics
(BLS)

Heidi Casta, DOL

Emily Krutsch, BLS

Tiffany Smith, ETA

Kirk Mueller, BLS

Cynthia Forland, Forland Consulting

Torrie Nickerson, The GA Team

Erin Sincevich, The GA Team

Others Attending for All or a Portion of the Meeting:

Derrick Prather, Finney Blue

Proceedings: November 6, 2024, 3:00PM EST**Welcome and Review of the Agenda****Workforce Information Advisory Council Meeting Agenda for November 6, 2024:**[Agenda – November 6, 2024](#)

MR. RIETZKE, Designated Federal Official (DFO), ETA and Chair convened the meeting of the Workforce Information Advisory Council (WIAC). He briefly discussed the agenda for the day's meeting. He reminded all participants that the meeting will be recorded and encouraged any public attendees to note in the chat if they would like to address the Council during the public comment portion. **MR. RIETZKE** advised that the next WIAC meeting in January will be held virtually in lieu of an in-person meeting with the inauguration being so close to the proposed date of the next meeting. He introduced **Lesley Hirsch**, New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, WIAC Chair, for opening remarks.

MS. HIRSCH reminded the Council of their purpose, to support the lives of workers in the country and support decision makers with good workforce and labor market information.

Cynthia Forland, Forland Consulting, asked **MS. HIRSCH** to highlight any items that were recently edited in the final draft of the recommendations.

A Copy of the Recommendations:

[Reimagining the Workforce and Labor Market Information System for the 21st Century](#)

MS. HIRSCH thanked everyone for their hard work in drafting the recommendations. She thanked **David Schmidt**, Nevada Department of Employment, Training, and Rehabilitation, and **Adam Leonard**, Texas Workforce Commission, specifically for their dedication to the writing process. She then outlined one of the two main edits implemented by the writing group since the September WIAC meeting. She shared that the question regarding the precise amount of lag time between the Census Post Secondary Employment Outcomes (PSEO) collection and data release was resolved by stating that there is a substantial lag time instead of putting the exact dates.

MR. SCHMIDT confirmed that the edits **MS. HIRSCH** discussed were the largest changes made. He expressed that all other editing focused on grammar, small-scale edits, and addressing some of the issues discussed during the September meeting.

MR. RIETZKE opened the floor to questions and comments.

MS. HIRSCH returned to the second of the two main edits, the goal of which was making a positive statement about the public sector's alignment with the goals of the workforce system and her hope the writing subcommittee achieved this goal.

Voting on Recommendations

MR. RIETZKE opened the floor for a vote. He explained the process of putting votes in the chat box. Council members were to type "Yes" or "No" and then a tally would make a written record.

Charisse Childers, Arkansas Department of Workforce Services, not in attendance, voted in favor of the recommendations as presented via email.

The Council voted unanimously in favor of approving the recommendations as presented.

MR. RIETZKE reported that the recommendations were officially adopted.

MS. HIRSCH commended all for their hard work, imagination, and collaboration.

MR. RIETZKE remarked that the group was unique in the amount of participation and congratulated the Council on adopting the final version of the recommendations.

Andrew Conrad, University of Northern Iowa Institute for Decision Making, asked how the recommendations are delivered to the Secretary of Labor (Secretary).

MR. RIETZKE shared that the intention is to move the recommendations as fast as possible so that they can go through the clearance process in a matter of weeks.

Julia Lane, Wagner School of Public Policy, New York University, asked if the recommendations would be directed to the current Acting Secretary Su or a future secretary.

MR. RIETZKE clarified that the recommendations will be directed to the current Acting Secretary. He suggested adding a cover page when submitting the document. He advised that the cover page not be substantive, but rather a simple statement of submission.

MS. HIRSCH asked what restrictions there are for discussing the findings of the recommendations outside of the DOL.

Don Haughton, ETA, clarified that Council members may go back to their state and suggest work on items from the recommendations. He advised against any attempts to speak "on behalf of WIAC." He made a

distinction between advocating for change, while not claiming that something must be done because the WIAC recommends it.

MR. SCHMIDT and **MS. LANE** provided examples of how these recommendations might be discussed without speaking on behalf of the WIAC.

Potential Future Topics of Focus

MR. RIETZKE turned the focus to future topics.

MS. FORLAND introduced the survey for potential future topics. Using a QR link, Council members accessed a survey to pick three future topics of interest.

Torrie Nickerson, The GA Team, presented the survey results in real time.

Top Survey Results

1. Impact of AI (seven out of 13 votes)
2. Certifications/licensure/credentials of workforce supply (four out of 13 votes)
3. Sector Focus—particularly on occupations and skills (four out of 13 votes)
4. Enhance Wage Records—focusing first on large employers? (four out of 13 votes)
5. Funding: cost allocation supporting data infrastructure and research (three out of 13 votes)
6. Self-employment/gig economy (three out of 13 votes)

Anna Hui, Missouri Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, WIAC Vice Chair, suggested grouping the topics by theme. Council members agreed and briefly discussed possible ways to approach the task.

MS. LANE pointed to the possible redundancy of the topics.

Corretta Pettway, Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, suggested investigating alternative data sources, both private and public, could inform the labor market in a new way or enhance existing structures.

MR. SCHMIDT added that those kinds of questions fit in with the topic he added to the write-in portion of the survey.

Topics Written in by Council Members

1. Developing a robust labor market information (LMI) system in parallel with, but not dependent upon, federally sourced data.
2. Creating communication feedback loops with key data consumers like community colleges.

3. Talk to the connections to other benefits to the entire workforce systems such as fraud detection, confidentiality, security and the like.

Participants discussed how “Impact of AI” relates to the topic of developing a robust LMI system.

MS. FORLAND suggested that a good use of the time would be to choose two or three topics and develop subcommittees.

Council members discussed strategies to address the various topics that members want to pursue, unanswered questions, and possible consolidation of topics.

MR. SCHMIDT asked the following via chat: “What are the key types of information we need? What are the data sources we have available? What are their benefits and drawbacks? What are the gaps that need to be filled?”

MS. HUI asked how to better connect existing data that isn’t currently connected to answer certain questions.

Council members discussed potential ways to create subcommittees and to start working on unanswered questions.

MR. RIETZKE suggested breaking into three groups prior to the next full Council meeting to keep work moving as smoothly as possible.

MS. FORLAND offered three options for picking subcommittees. Council members could pick three subcommittees to address topics before the next full meeting, pick a single subcommittee to determine topics and address cross-cutting questions, or wait until the next WIAC meeting to create subcommittees there.

Discussion ensued about which option might be the most advantageous. An informal vote was taken to decide the number of subcommittees. Council members used the chat to vote and agreed to have three subcommittees. Further discussions began regarding how members might be split up into the three subcommittees.

MS. PETTWAY suggested using the previously assigned subcommittees and all participants agreed.

MS. FORLAND confirmed that the Incremental Subcommittee and Envisioning Subcommittee would meet separately to investigate and develop unanswered questions for future focus. At the next full WIAC meeting those two subcommittees will report to the WIAC. At that time there will be opportunities to discuss and decide what topics will be pursued and how future subcommittees will be structured.

Closing and Next Steps

MR. RIETZKE informed **MS. HUI** and **MS. HIRSCH** that he would be sending them an email for their signatures on the cover letter as soon as possible to get the recommendations to the Secretary of Labor. He expressed that an early 2025 full WIAC meeting would likely be virtual, and more details will follow. The meeting was adjourned.