



# Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 294**

January Session, 2023

Substitute Senate Bill No. 1089

*Senate, March 29, 2023*

The Committee on Commerce reported through SEN. HARTLEY of the 15th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT CONCERNING A WORKFORCE TRAINING AND EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING PROGRAM.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2023*) (a) The Office of Workforce  
2 Strategy shall develop a workforce training and experiential learning  
3 program to ensure access to training for careers in mechatronics,  
4 cybersecurity, three-dimensional printing, the Internet of things and  
5 chartered global management accounting.

6 (b) The Office of Workforce Strategy shall:

7 (1) Consult with related businesses on an ongoing basis to assess the  
8 hiring needs of such businesses;

9 (2) Develop an application for prospective enrollees in the workforce  
10 training and experiential learning program developed pursuant to this  
11 section;

12 (3) Partner with regional workforce development boards and

13 institutions of higher education to offer workforce training and  
14 experiential learning programs;

15 (4) Develop a series of career pathways to ensure that workers have  
16 the ability to vertically advance their careers; and

17 (5) Partner with associated training providers to track and report  
18 performance outcomes of participants in the workforce training and  
19 experiential learning program.

20 (c) Upon completion of the workforce training and experiential  
21 learning training program, enrollees may opt to have their information  
22 provided to businesses as prospective employees.

23 (d) Not later than July 1, 2024, and annually thereafter, the Office of  
24 Workforce Strategy shall submit a report, in accordance with the  
25 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, on the workforce  
26 training and experiential learning program developed pursuant to  
27 subsections (a) to (c), inclusive, of this section to the joint standing  
28 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
29 relating to commerce, education, higher education and employment  
30 advancement and labor and public employees. Such report may include  
31 information on the (1) workforce training and experiential learning  
32 program completion and job placement rate of individuals who  
33 participated in such program, and (2) starting wages and wage growth  
34 of individuals employed after participating in the workforce training  
35 and experiential learning program.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2023	New section

**CE** Joint Favorable Subst.

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:**

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 24 \$	FY 25 \$
Office of Workforce Strategy	GF - Cost	84,188	107,250
State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits <sup>1</sup>	GF - Cost	29,626	39,501

Note: GF=General Fund

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

The bill results in a cost of \$113,814 in FY 24 and \$146,751 annually thereafter by requiring the Office of Workforce Strategy (OWS) to create a workforce training and experiential learning program to ensure training access for careers in mechatronics, cybersecurity, 3-D printing, the Internet of things, and chartered global management accounting.

OWS would require one full-time position at an annual cost of \$131,751 (\$92,250 for salary and \$39,501 for fringe benefits) to develop the application process, develop career pathways, and coordinate the program with regional workforce development boards, higher education institutions, and related businesses. OWS would also incur additional costs of \$15,000 annually associated with marketing materials and other administrative expenses.

**The Out Years**

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would

<sup>1</sup>The fringe benefit costs for most state employees are budgeted centrally in accounts administered by the Comptroller. The estimated active employee fringe benefit cost associated with most personnel changes is 42.82% of payroll in FY 24.

continue into the future subject to inflation.

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**OLR Bill Analysis****sSB 1089*****AN ACT CONCERNING A WORKFORCE TRAINING AND EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING PROGRAM.*****SUMMARY**

This bill requires the Office of Workforce Strategy (OWS) to develop a workforce training and experiential learning program to ensure training access for careers in mechatronics, cybersecurity, 3-D printing, the Internet of things, and chartered global management accounting. OWS must develop an application for the training program's prospective enrollees and consult with related businesses on an ongoing basis to assess their hiring needs.

Under the bill, OWS must partner with (1) regional workforce development boards and higher education institutions to offer the program and (2) associated training providers to track and report program participants' performance outcomes. OWS must also develop career pathways to ensure that workers (presumably, those who have completed the program) can vertically advance their careers.

The bill allows participants who complete the training program to opt to have their information given to prospective employers.

The bill requires OWS to submit an annual report on the program, beginning by July 1, 2024, to the Commerce, Education, Higher Education, and Labor committees. The report may include information on (1) program completion and job placement rates and (2) starting wages and wage growth for employees who participated in the training program.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2023

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Commerce Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 19 Nay 5 (03/14/2023)