



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Governor Scott Signs Legislation That Will Strengthen and Modernize Florida's Workforce System**

**TALLAHASSEE** – Governor Rick Scott has signed into law legislation that will ensure Florida's nationally recognized workforce system remains market relevant and focused on meeting the needs of business, today and into the future.

House Bill 7019, signed yesterday, created a task force involving 20 state partners who will support implementation of the federal [Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act \(WIOA\)](#). WIOA provides key guidance and updates to the workforce system in every state and aligns with many of the innovative workforce development programs and priorities Florida has employed for several years.

"We applaud Governor Scott for signing into law this legislation formalizing Florida's WIOA task force, which combines key state and regional partners to better connect Florida's talented and diverse workforce with new opportunities in today's rapidly changing business environment," said CareerSource Florida President and CEO Chris Hart IV, task force chairman. "This is an exciting time for Florida as we work together to help empower the people we serve to achieve economic stability and success."

WIOA places greater emphasis on achieving results for job seekers, workers looking to grow in their careers and businesses looking to hire and enhance competitiveness. Engagement with the business community and alignment with regional economies and stakeholders is prioritized. These priorities have been an ongoing area of focus for Florida, well-positioning the state for implementation.

Task force members include:

- Agency for Persons with Disabilities;
- CareerSource Florida;
- Enterprise Florida;
- Florida Association of Postsecondary Schools and Colleges Inc.;
- Florida College System;
- Florida Department Children and Families;

- Florida Department of Corrections;
- Florida Department of Economic Opportunity;
- Florida Department of Education
  - Commissioner;
  - Division of Blind Services;
  - Division of Career and Adult Education;
  - Division of Vocational Rehabilitation;
- Florida Department of Elder Affairs;
- Florida Department of Juvenile Justice;
- Florida Small Business Development Center Network;
- Florida Workforce Development Association Inc.;
- Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida Inc.; and
- State University System

CareerSource Florida is convening the task force's meetings to address key issues related to WIOA implementation. The meeting schedule is published [here](#). The task force will submit recommendations to the CareerSource Florida Board of Directors, which is required to submit a final report to the Governor, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by Dec. 1, 2015. For more information, visit [careersourceflorida.com/WIOA](http://careersourceflorida.com/WIOA).

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### **About CareerSource Florida**

[CareerSource Florida](#) is the statewide workforce policy and investment board of business and government leaders charged with overseeing the CareerSource Florida network, which includes the Department of Economic Opportunity, 24 regional workforce boards and nearly 100 career centers. The CareerSource Florida network connects employers with qualified, skilled talent and Floridians with employment and career development opportunities to achieve economic prosperity. Learn more at [careersourceflorida.com](http://careersourceflorida.com) or 1-866-352-2345.

*CareerSource Florida is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. The voice telephone numbers in this document may be reached by persons using TTY/TDD equipment via the Florida Relay Service at 711. Disponible en Español.*