



**Committee on Workforce Innovation Meeting
July 30, 2026, at 11:00 a.m.**

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AGENDA

- I. Welcome and Opening RemarksDr. Windsor Sherrill, Committee Chair
- II. Approval of April 30, 2026, Meeting Minutes*Dr. Windsor Sherrill
- III. PY'26 Committee Priorities ReviewMs. Pamela Jones
- IV. Strategic Plan DiscussionDr. Windsor Sherrill
- V. Other Business/Adjourn.....Dr. Windsor Sherrill

*Denotes Voting Item

**Governor's State Workforce Development Board
April 30, 2026, Workforce Innovation Committee Meeting Minutes**

Members Present:

Dr. Windsor Sherrill*, Chair
Colonel Craig Currey
Ms. Elaine Morgan
Ms. Britt Vergnolle

Members Absent:

Ms. Susan H. Cohen
Ms. Felicia Johnson
Dr. Tim Hardee
Mayor GP McLeer
Mr. Tyler Servant
Sen. Ross Turner

Welcome and Opening Remarks Dr. Windsor Sherrill, Committee Chair

Dr. Windsor Sherrill, Workforce Innovation Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. A quorum was present.

Approval of February 05, 2026, Meeting Minutes* Dr. Windsor Sherrill

Colonel Craig Currey motioned to approve the February 05, 2026, meeting minutes as submitted. Ms. Britt Vergnolle seconded the motion, and the Committee unanimously approved them.

Discussion on Committee Priorities:

a. America's Talent Strategy Update Mr. Zach Nickerson

Mr. Zach Nickerson, Deputy Director of Workforce Development, presented an overview of the five pillars outlined in the America's Talent Strategy: Building the Workforce for the Golden Age, the Federal Administration's strategic direction for the workforce system, that emphasizes employer engagement, simplified access to workforce services, integrated digital tools, use of emerging technologies such as AI and virtual reality, measurable outcomes, and improved flexibility through waivers.

- Pillar I: Industry-Driven Strategies: Building reliable talent pipelines through a workforce system led by industry and aligned with American's economic priorities.
- Pillar II: Worker Mobility: Bringing more Americans into the labor force and helping them advance, including through the innovative use of technology and labor market data.
- Pillar III: Integrated Systems: Replacing a fragmented web of duplicative programs with a streamlined, coordinated system that delivers unified workforce services.
- Pillar IV: Accountability: Ensuring federally funded workforce programs deliver measurable results by linking investments to outcomes and enforcing performance discipline.
- Pillar V: Flexibility and Innovation: Create new models of workforce innovation built to match the speed and scale of AI-driven economic transformation.

b. Maximizing K-12 Youth Employment Resources Ms. Laura Cox

To support the Committee's priority to maximize K-12 youth resources, Ms. Laura Cox, Regional Workforce Advisor Director, presented on personalized learning options in SC, proposing a strategy to support students and educators in virtual, homeschool, charter, private school, and other non-traditional students. RWAs primarily support educators and students

**Governor's State Workforce Development Board
April 30, 2026, Workforce Innovation Committee Meeting Minutes**

through career exposure activities, employer engagement, professional development, field studies, speakers, simulations, and awareness of postsecondary and earn-while-you-learn pathways, in traditional public K-12 settings, engaging with non-traditional students via individual requests or existing relationships.

Discussion:

The Committee discussed options for implementing this strategy, including establishing a process to share information about resources and opportunities consistently. Ms. Cox will identify a subject matter expert to present to the Committee on non-traditional education options, offering valuable insights into ensuring that educators and students have access to RWA services.

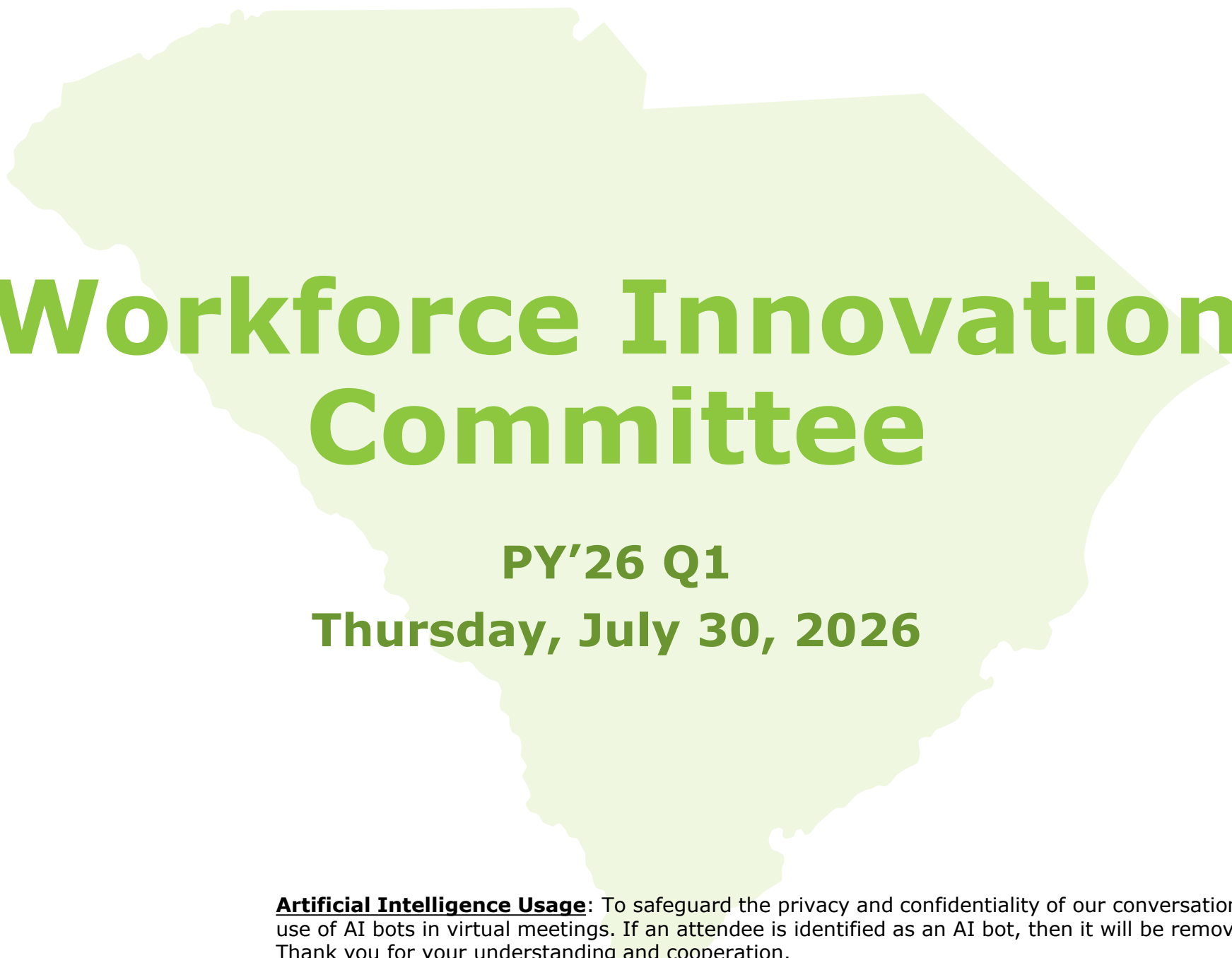
Other Business/AdjournDr. Windsor Sherrill

Mr. Robert Davis, Director of Workforce Strategy, Partnerships and Innovation, provided an update on Workforce Pell, a new form of Pell Grant funding created for short-term workforce focused education and training programs, explaining that the State Workforce Development Board will be consulting on the application process. He noted that states are preparing for implementation as the program moves toward a July 1, 2026, effective date.

Ms. Jones reminded members that the next full State Workforce Development Board meeting will be held on June 18, 2026, in Columbia. Members received an email asking them to submit workforce-related updates that will be highlighted as part of the SWDB Member Recognition agenda item.

Dr. Sherrill noted that SWDB Staff sent a Save-the date for the 2026 Workforce Symposium, which will be held on September 1 & 2, 2026, at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:02 p.m.



Workforce Innovation Committee

PY'26 Q1

Thursday, July 30, 2026

Workforce Innovation Committee Meeting Agenda

- I. WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS
- II. APPROVAL OF APRIL 30, 2026, MEETING MINUTES*
- III. PY'26 COMMITTEE PRIORITIES
- IV. STRATEGIC PLAN DISCUSSION
- V. OTHER BUSINESS/ADJOURN

Members Present:

Dr. Windsor Sherrill*, Chair
Colonel Craig Currey
Ms. Elaine Morgan
Ms. Britt Vergnolle

Members Absent:

Ms. Susan H. Cohen
Ms. Felicia Johnson
Dr. Tim Hardee
Mayor GP McLeer
Mr. Tyler Servant
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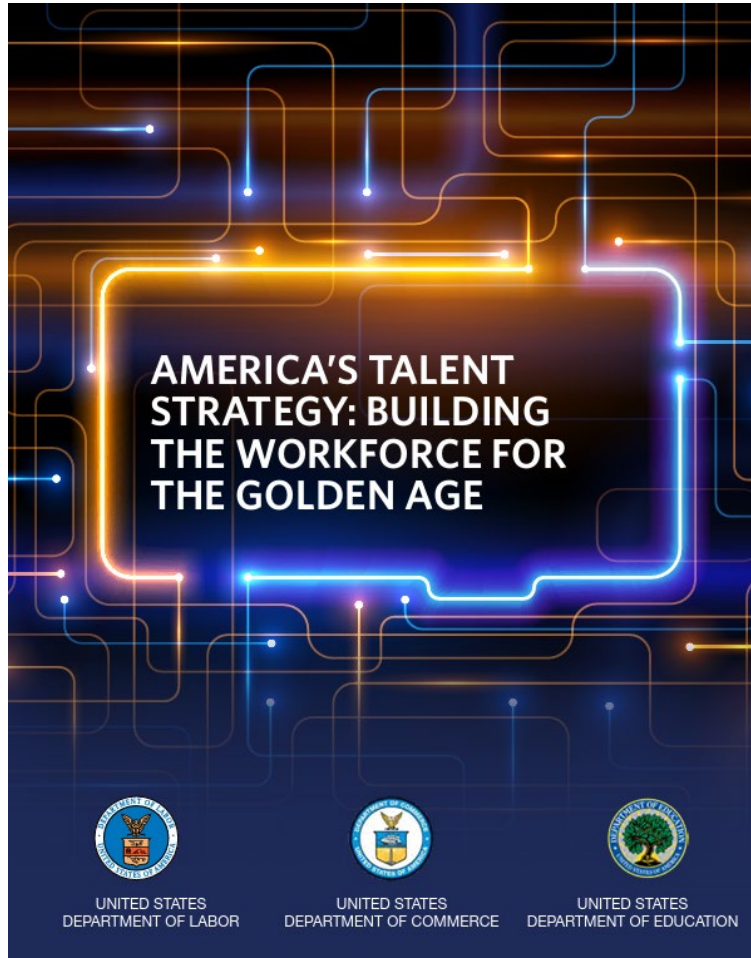


PY'26 Committee Priorities

Alignment w/ the America's Talent Strategy

- America's Talent Strategy: Building the Workforce for the Golden Age outlines a national vision for strengthening the U.S. workforce by aligning education, training, workforce development, and economic growth efforts.
- The strategy is advanced through collaboration among federal agencies, state and local governments, workforce development boards, education and training providers, nonprofit organizations, and business and industry partners that administer or receive funding under WIOA and other federal workforce programs.
- Within the context of the WIOA Combined State Plan, America's Talent Strategy functions as a guiding resource for states as they design, align, and implement workforce programs and initiatives.
- State and local projects supported through WIOA should align with both individual program goals and the broader strategic priorities outlined in the America's Talent Strategy to support a skilled, adaptable, and competitive workforce.

Five Pillars of the Talent Strategy



PI - Industry-Driven Strategies

Build reliable talent pipelines led by industry and aligned with economic priorities

PII - Worker Mobility

Increase labor force participation and career advancement through technology and data-driven tools

PIII - Integrated Systems

Replace fragmented programs with coordinated, unified workforce services

PIV - Accountability

Link federal investment to measurable outcomes and performance standards

PV - Flexibility & Innovation

Promote rapid reskilling and AI-readiness through new models and workforce development

Workforce Innovation Committee Priorities

Workforce Innovation Committee		
Goal/Objectives	Strategies	Implementation
Pillar I: Industry-Driven Strategies Building reliable talent pipelines through a workforce system led by industry and aligned with America's economic priorities.	1.1 Increase access to credentials that validate attainment of essential skills including soft skills and digital literacy skills.	1.1.1 Promote SC Career Readiness Credentials and Develop attainment goals
Pillar II: Worker Mobility Bringing more Americans into the labor force and helping them advance, including through the innovative use of technology and labor market data.	2.1 Increase awareness of resources to mitigate obstacles to employment.	2.1.1 Collect and distribute a catalog of promising practice and models for removing obstacles, primarily related to transportation, childcare, and housing.
		2.1.2 Funding to implement models for removing barriers.
Pillar V: Flexibility and Innovation Ensuring federally funded workforce programs deliver measurable results by linking investments to outcomes and enforcing performance discipline.	5.1 Leverage existing WIOA flexibilities through the evaluation and submission of waiver requests.	5.1.1 Explore opportunities to use federal waivers that will allow state flexibility in program administration.
	5.2 Utilize WIOA Governor's Reserve Funding to support AI literacy and training programs.	5.2.1 Develop an understanding of AI resources, policies, and best practices used by WIOA partners.

Workforce Innovation Committee

PY'26

Priorities	Description
Promote SC Career Readiness Program.	Promote SC Career Readiness Program across the workforce system, increasing the number of employers that recognize the credential as a value add when evaluating employment applicants.
Explore how to maximize youth employment resources.	Increase awareness of resources for career pathways for K-12 students and parents.
Collect and distribute a catalog of promising practice and models for removing obstacles, primarily related to transportation, childcare, and housing.	Collect promising practices, models, and resources to increase awareness of resources to mitigate obstacles to employment, to create and distribute an electronic and physical resource catalog for to the SC Works system.
Utilize WIOA Governor's Reserve Funding to support AI literacy and training programs.	Develop an understanding of AI resources, policies, and best practices used by WIOA partners to find where additional resources could be used to fill gaps in customer service.



Discussion on Implementation of Committee Priorities



Other Business/Adjourn

Thank You!

Upcoming Meetings and Events:

2026 SC Workforce & Manufacturing Summit – September 1-2, 2026

Full Board – Thursday, December 17, 2026