



## GOVERNOR'S WORKFORCE CABINET

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### **Governor's Workforce Cabinet Releases Recommendations to Tackle Employer Talent Challenges and Accelerate the State's Economy**

**INDIANAPOLIS** – The [Governor's Workforce Cabinet](#) today released [recommendations](#) to tackle employer talent challenges and accelerate the state's economy, for consideration by Indiana Governor Eric J. Holcomb and the Indiana General Assembly ahead of the 2023 legislative session.

The recommendations focus on solutions to critical workforce and education challenges Indiana is experiencing, and provide immediate actions to help employers find workers, remove barriers and prepare the future workforce.

"The Cabinet has put forward bold solutions to connect employers with the workforce talent they need," said Ryan Kitchell, Chair, Governor's Workforce Cabinet. "This is a rare opportunity to accelerate Indiana's economy and digital development, and leapfrog other states. Inaction will leave Hoosiers in the digital dust."

"Some of the themes include dedicated employer services, removal of barriers, reinventing the high school learning environment, providing students with more support and emphasis on quality STEM for all," said Whitney Ertel, Executive Director, Governor's Workforce Cabinet. "We are impressed with the thoughtful work of the Cabinet members and hope to see much of this passed as legislation."

Problems the GWC recommendations are trying to solve for include:

- The mismatch between employer needs and lack of skilled workers
- Digital acceleration, impacting all industries (manufacturing, agriculture, life sciences, engineering, etc.)
- More people – primarily women – sitting out of the labor force
- High school students graduating without a plan or practical skills
- A declining college going rate (falling short of Indiana's 60% goal)
- Hoosiers without a high school diploma (432,000 and growing)
- Literacy challenges
- Affordability and lack of early childhood care

The recommendations are a collective effort of the Cabinet – 31 statewide members including business and community leaders, education representatives from K-12 and postsecondary institutions, Indiana lawmakers and experts from state agencies. Members are appointed by the Governor and represent Indiana's 12 economic growth regions.

The 2022 GWC Recommendations can be found at: [www.in.gov/gwc/home/gwc-recommendations](http://www.in.gov/gwc/home/gwc-recommendations)

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The [Governor's Workforce Cabinet \(GWC\)](#) was formed to ensure a talent-driven education and workforce system by addressing current and future needs for Indiana employers and individuals; strengthen Indiana's economy by integrating state and federal resources; and provide strategic alignment for state agencies and organizations driving workforce, education and economic development.