



**SOUTH FLORIDA WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2026
8:15 A.M.**

VIA ZOOM ONLY

The public may view the session online. **Registration is required:**
https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ISSH7LAzTdywsrtfD2Q3IA

AGENDA

1. Call to Order and Introductions
2. Public Comment
3. Approval of Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
 - A. January 8, 2026
4. Informational – Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act Update
5. Informational – Florida Legislative Update, Senate Bill 528 Manufacturing
6. Informational – Florida Legislative Update, House Bill 221 Minimum Wage Requirements
7. Informational – Florida Legislative Update, Senate Bill 1300 and House Bill 325 Education and Workforce Development for Current and Former Inmates
8. Informational – South Dade Rural Initiative Award
9. Informational – WIOA Waiver Request for Youth Program Elements
10. Informational – Youth Build Grant 2026
11. Closed Session – Executive Director’s Review

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"Members of the public shall be given a reasonable opportunity to be heard on a specific agenda item, but must register with the agenda clerk prior to being heard."



SFWIB EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

DATE: 2/12/2026

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 2

AGENDA ITEM SUBJECT: PUBLIC COMMENT

AGENDA ITEM TYPE: **INFORMATIONAL**

RECOMMENDATION: N/A

STRATEGIC GOAL: **STRONG WORKFORCE SYSTEM LEADERSHIP**

STRATEGIC PROJECT: **National leader in an ROI-focused enterprise**

BACKGROUND:

N/A

FUNDING: N/A

PERFORMANCE: N/A

NO ATTACHMENT



SFWIB EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

DATE: 2/12/2026

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 3

AGENDA ITEM SUBJECT: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

AGENDA ITEM TYPE: **APPROVAL**

RECOMMENDATION: SFWIB staff recommends to the Executive Committee to approve minutes from the January 8, 2025 meeting, as set forth below.

STRATEGIC GOAL: **STRONG WORKFORCE SYSTEM LEADERSHIP**

STRATEGIC PROJECT: **Strengthen workforce system accountability**

BACKGROUND:

N/A

FUNDING: N/A

PERFORMANCE: N/A

ATTACHMENT



SFWIB EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

DATE: 2/12/2026

AGENDA ITEM: 3A

AGENDA TOPIC: MEETING MINUTES

SFWIB EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

DATE: January 8, 2026

LOCATION: Zoom Only

ZOOM: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ISSH7LAzTdywsrtfD2Q3IA

1. CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS Chairman Gibson called to order the regular meeting of the SFWIB Executive Committee Meeting at 8:22AM on January 18, 2026.

ROLL CALL: 8 members; 5 required; 6 present: **Quorum established.**

SFWIB EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT (VIA ZOOM)	SFWIB MEMBERS EXCUSED	SFWIB STAFF
Canales, Dequasia Chi, Joe del Valle, Juan-Carlos, Vice-Chairman Ferradaz, Gilda Gibson, Charles, Chair Loynaz, Oscar, M.D. Mantilla, Rene Scott, Kenneth “Kenny”	SFWIB EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT	Beasley, Rick Bennett, Renee Morgan, Ebony Perrin, Yian Smith, Robert ADMINISTRATION/IT
OTHER ATTENDEES		

Agenda items are displayed in the order they were discussed.

2. Public Comment

Public comments should be two minutes or less.

Chairman Gibson opened the floor for comments from the public. No requests to speak were received by the Executive Office. None presented. Item closed.

3. Approval of Executive Committee Meeting Minutes – December 11, 2025

Chairman Gibson presented SFWIB Executive Committee Meeting minutes for review in advance of approval.

Motion for approval of December 11, 2025, SFWIB Executive Committee Meeting minutes by Mr. Chi; Ms. Canales seconded; **motion is passed without dissent.**

No further comments or suggestions were submitted by the members. Item closed.

4. Information – Federal Workforce System Integration Update

Mr. Gibson introduced the item; Mr. Beasley advise that the U.S. Department of Labor and Education are streamlining processes to improve aimed at reducing duplication and increasing efficiencies, improving outcomes for job seekers and employers.

Henry Mack III, a former professor at Barry University, has been appointed as the Assistant Secretary for the Employment and Training Administration (ETA). As part of this transition, the state has transferred the WIOA (Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act) plan portal to the U.S. Department of Labor. This change will facilitate better alignment and closer management of core WIOA programs, including Adult Education and Family Literacy.

Mr. Beasley reviewed key updates regarding the transition of WIOA (Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act) state plans to the U.S. Department of Labor. These updates include the joint administration of the WIOA state plan by both the state and the USDOL, the alignment of grant and payment systems, options for WIOA waivers and flexibility, and the submission of modifications for the 2026 WIOA State Plan.

To support this effort, the U.S. Department of Labor, in collaboration with the Office of Career and Technical Education at the U.S. Department of Education, issued joint



guidance outlining the available WIOA waiver and flexibility options. This guidance includes recommendations for integrating Perkins Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs into the public workforce system.

In response to the guidance given to workforce boards, CSSF staff will present recommendations for policy changes and/or waiver requests to the board during its February meeting. These recommendations will be forwarded to the state and are designed to utilize TEGL 05-25 and the waiver authorities under WIOA. The goal of these recommendations is to modernize workforce programs, reduce barriers, and expand opportunities for underserved populations.

No further comments or suggestions were submitted. Item closed.

5. Information – Floridians First State Workforce Budget

Mr. Beasley provided an update on the Department of Education and invited Mr. Smith to discuss recent developments with the Committee. Mr. Smith reviewed the newly released plans from the U.S. Department of Education to transfer certain functions to other federal agencies through six interagency agreements. Although no date of transfer has been established as of today, Mr. Smith explained the key elements of the plan, which involves the Department of Labor, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of the Interior, and the U.S. Department of State. These partnerships aim to improve the management of specific programs, utilize the administrative expertise of partnering agencies, reduce the bureaucratic layers that have accumulated within the Department of Education over the years, and enhance services for grantees, families, and other stakeholders.

The Department of Education will retain its statutory authority, while operational control will be transferred to partner agencies. Mr. Smith indicated that we should expect legal and political challenges from congressional Democrats and various stakeholders. Additionally, workforce boards may need to assess the effects on education and training grant management.

Mr. Beasley provided an update on his discussion with Henry Mack, the nominee for Assistant Secretary of the U.S. Department of Labor for the Employment and Training Administration. He mentioned a recent Training and Employment Guidance Letter (TEGL) released by the state, which resulted in the CSSF team working on waiver requests aimed at improving employment and education systems in Dade County and

potentially across the state. As a result, a few items may come before the board for approval either next week or in February 2026.

No comments or suggestions were submitted from the members. Item closed.

6. Information – National Employment Trends Update

Mr. Beasley introduced the item and requested that Mr. Smith provide an update on the ADP National Employment Report, which was released in early December 2025.

Mr. Smith highlighted the overall changes in employment within the private sector and discussed their effects on the business landscape, specifically pointing out that small businesses are experiencing the largest share of job losses. He also reviewed the gains and losses across various sectors, including manufacturing, IT, business services, education, health services, and leisure and hospitality.

Given the heightened economic uncertainty, the hiring environment has become "choppy." This means that while job openings are available, the hiring activity is characterized by volatility, inconsistency, and often contradictory trends.

The U.S. Department of Labor is set to release an updated report later this week. Mr. Beasley expressed concerns regarding the recent personnel change at the Bureau of Labor Statistics, noting that the change occurred because the administration was dissatisfied with the data released in October. He emphasized the importance of monitoring the independent ADP report for more accurate, real-time data. Furthermore, Mr. Beasley mentioned an increase in WARN notifications, which has resulted in more employee layoffs and a tightening of the local labor market. In addition, nationwide, we are seeing a trend of decreased wages, according to the ADP report.

No further comments or suggestions were submitted by the members. Item closed.

7. Informational – Bureau of Labor and Statistics Survey vs ADP Report

Beasley introduced the agenda item and requested that Mr. Smith share the analyzed labor market data from both ADP and the U.S. Department of Labor. Mr. Smith further highlighted key similarities, differences, and implications for future workforce planning.

There are notable differences in methodology: the U.S. Department of Labor takes a broader view of the labor market, while ADP focuses primarily on private payroll activity. Despite these differences, both agencies are reflecting uneven labor market conditions and a continued demand in specific business sectors.

To keep the Committee informed about local employment changes, Mr. Beasley advised that weekly WARN (Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification) report updates will be provided going forward. Furthermore, he discussed strategies CSSF has implemented to support workers impacted by job loss. This includes wage reimbursement for new hires in similar occupations. He assured the Committee that we will continue to monitor labor market indicators and implement targeted workforce strategies to address local economic challenges.

Further discussion was held on current rapid response activities and how the Committee can assist CSSF efforts to ensure that local community members can find employment.

No further comments or suggestions were submitted by the members. Item closed.

8. Informational – Federal Indicators of Performance: First Quarter PY 2025-2026

Mr. Beasley presented the performance indicators for Quarter 1 of the 2025-2026 Program Year under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). The CSSF continues to meet or exceed all 18 performance measures.

Mr. Beasley and Mr. Smith provided insights into the performance data analysis for adults, youth, dislocated workers, and Wagner-Peyser. They highlighted both strengths and weaknesses among the various population groups. The team discussed strategies to address declining employment rates and credential attainment, emphasizing the need for improved data analysis and follow-up services. Additionally, Mr. Beasley announced a new initiative , in partnership with Miami-Dade College, that focuses on prior learning assessment and a new on-the-job training (OJT) program focusing on the South Dade rural area, aimed at rapid employment without eligibility requirements.

No comments or suggestions were submitted from the members. Item closed.

New Business

SFWIB Annual “Refresher” Training

Mr. Beasley reminded the Executive Committee about the annual training requirement. He informed them that the session will be conducted during the board meeting on February 19th.



2025 Financial Disclosure

Financial disclosure is mandatory for public employees, officials, and board members. This requirement helps the public assess potential conflicts of interest, deters corruption, and enhances trust in government. The Florida Commission on Ethics will soon send a reminder along with a link to file your 2025 Financial Disclosure. When you receive this message, please file your disclosure as soon as possible. The deadline for submission is July 1, 2026.

With no further business presented to the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 8:57 am.

The next SFWIB Executive Committee Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 12, 2026, at 8:15am. Location to be announced.

DRAFT



SFWIB EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

DATE: 12/12/2026

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 4

AGENDA ITEM SUBJECT: WORKER ADJUSTMENT AND RETRAINING NOTIFICATION ACT UPDATE

AGENDA ITEM TYPE: **INFORMATIONAL**

RECOMMENDATION: N/A

STRATEGIC GOAL: **BUILD DEMAND-DRIVEN SYSTEM W/ EMPLOYER ENGAGEMENT**

STRATEGIC PROJECT: **Use LMI data for policy development**

BACKGROUND:

The Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification (WARN) Act offers protection to workers, their families, and their communities by requiring employers to provide notice 60 days in advance of covered plant closings and covered mass layoffs. This notice must be provided to either affected workers or their representatives (e.g., a labor union); to the State Rapid Response Coordinator; and to the Chief Local Elected Official of the local government in which the employment site is located

In general, employers are covered by the WARN Act if they have 100 or more employees, not counting employees who have worked less than six of the last 12 months and not counting employees who work an average of less than 20 hours per week. Private, for-profit employers and private, nonprofit employers are covered, as are public and quasi-public entities which operate in a commercial context and are separately organized from the regular government. Regular federal, state, and local government entities, which provide public services, are not covered.

Employees entitled to notice under the WARN Act include hourly and salaried workers, as well as managerial and supervisory employees. Business partners are not entitled to notice.

Overview of WARN Activity in 2026

In 2026, South Florida has experienced a notable increase in WARN notices, with several industries seeing significant layoffs. Two companies in particular, Aimbridge and SMBC Manubank, have filed WARN notices, signaling major workforce reductions in South Florida's food and services and finance and insurance sectors.

1. Aimbridge – 66 Employees Impacted in Food and Services.

Aimbridge, a major player in the food and services industry operates numerous hotels and hospitality services across the region. The layoffs are likely part of a larger trend affecting the accommodation and food services industry, which has been heavily impacted by the post-pandemic recovery, changes in consumer behavior, and the increasing shift toward automation in the hospitality sector.

Labor Shortages and Rising Wages: Many hospitality companies, including Aimbridge, are grappling with worker shortages as employees leave the industry in search of better wages or working conditions. As a result, companies are forced to reduce their workforce, impacting both full-time and part-time workers.

2. SMBC Manubank – 14 Employees Impacted in Finance and Insurance

SMBC Manubank, a subsidiary of Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation, is part of the Finance and Insurance sector. While this number is relatively small compared to other industries, the impact is still significant, particularly in a sector that is essential to South Florida's economy.

Economic and regulatory pressures, global and local economic conditions, including rising interest rates, regulatory changes, and a slowdown in financial services activity, could have contributed to the downsizing at SMBC Manubank. Additionally, businesses in the financial sector are constantly adjusting their workforce to align with fluctuating demands and market conditions.

FUNDING: N/A

PERFORMANCE: N/A

NO ATTACHMENT



SFWIB EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

DATE: 2/12/2026

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 5

AGENDA ITEM SUBJECT: FLORIDA LEGISLATIVE UPDATE SENATE BILL 528 MANUFACTURING

AGENDA ITEM TYPE: **INFORMATIONAL**

RECOMMENDATION: N/A

STRATEGIC GOAL: **STRENGTHEN THE ONE-STOP DELIVERY SYSTEM**

STRATEGIC PROJECT: **Emphasize work-based learning and training**

BACKGROUND:

Senate Bill 528 (2026) proposes a comprehensive restructuring of Florida's approach to manufacturing, workforce development, and career promotion. The bill establishes a new Chief Manufacturing Officer (CMO) within the Department of Commerce, creates a Florida Manufacturers' Workforce Development Grant Program, and launches a statewide Manufacturing Promotional Campaign. The legislation is effective July 1, 2026.

Summary of Key Provisions:

1. Creation of the Chief Manufacturing Office (CMO)

The bill establishes a Chief Manufacturing Officer as part of the senior leadership of the Department of Commerce. The CMO serves as the state's subject-matter expert on manufacturing and is responsible for coordinating manufacturing strategy across state, regional, and local entities. All state and local governmental entities, including workforce boards, are required to assist the CMO within existing legal and budgetary constraints.

2. Expanded Role of Workforce Development Boards

The CMO is explicitly directed to collaborate with regional workforce development boards to promote manufacturing as a career pathway. This includes coordination around:

- Career awareness beginning in elementary and middle school
- Work-based learning and technology demonstration centers
- Dual enrollment, industry certifications, and secondary/postsecondary alignment

- Training initiatives targeting underrepresented populations and individuals reentering the workforce

3. **Florida Manufacturer's Workforce Development Grant Program:**

The bill creates a competitive grant program administered by the Department of Commerce, under the direction of the CMO, to support:

- Workforce training and education partnerships
- Deployment of advanced manufacturing technologies and cybersecurity infrastructure
- Expansion of regional manufacturing training centers
- K-12 and postsecondary career awareness initiatives

Priority is given to projects that include workforce development components and partnerships with education and training entities. Grant funds may not be used for salaries, benefits, or general business expenses. Final award decisions rest solely with the Department of Commerce.

Key Considerations for the Board:

1. **Strategic Alignment:** The bill elevates manufacturing as a statewide workforce priority, signaling the need for local boards to reassess sector strategies, training investments, and employer engagement in manufacturing.
2. **Partnership Expectations:** Workforce boards are explicitly named as collaborators, which may increase expectations for participation in regional training centers, career awareness initiatives, and grant-supported projects.
3. **Reporting and Coordination:** The CMO's biennial reporting requirements and inter-agency coordination mandate may result in new data requests or alignment expectations for local workforce systems.

FUNDING: N/A

PERFORMANCE: N/A

NO ATTACHMENT



SFWIB EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

DATE: 2/12/2026

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 6

AGENDA ITEM SUBJECT: FLORIDA LEGISLATIVE UPDATE HOUSE BILL 221 MINIMUM WAGE

AGENDA ITEM TYPE: **INFORMATIONAL**

RECOMMENDATION: N/A

STRATEGIC GOAL: **DEDICATED COMMITMENT TO YOUTH PARTICIPATION**

STRATEGIC PROJECT: **Emphasize work-based learning and training**

BACKGROUND:

House Bill 221 (2026), titled the “On-the-Job Workforce Training Act,” amends Florida’s state minimum wage statute to create a limited exemption for certain work-based learning participants. The bill allows eligible employees to voluntarily opt out of Florida’s state minimum wage requirements under defined conditions, while still requiring payment at or above the federal minimum wage. The bill takes effect July 1, 2026.

Summary of Key Provisions:

1. Minimum Wage Opt-Out for Work-Based Learning Participants

The bill exempts employers from Florida’s state minimum wage requirements for employees participating in:

- A structured work study program
- Internship
- Pre-apprenticeship program or similar work-based learning opportunity

2. Voluntary Waiver Requirement

Employees must voluntarily sign a waiver acknowledging their right to the state minimum wage and choosing to opt out. Employers are explicitly prohibited from coercing employees into signing a waiver.

For employees under age 18, a parent or guardian must also sign the waiver.

3. **Federal Minimum Wage Floor Maintained**

Even when a waiver is executed, employers must still pay wages at or above the federal minimum wage. The waiver applies only to the state minimum wage requirement.

4. **Time-Limited Applicability**

Any waiver to opt out of the state minimum wage is valid for a maximum of nine (9) months from the start of employment. After that period, the employee must be paid at or above Florida's state minimum wage regardless of role or title.

Key Considerations for the Board:

1. **Impact on Work-Based Learning Programs:** The bill directly affects internships, preapprenticeships, and similar programs commonly supported or promoted by workforce boards and their partners.
2. **Compliance and Oversight:** Workforce boards and training providers will need to ensure participating employers understand waiver requirements, documentation standards, time limits, and anti-coercion provisions.
3. **Employer Engagement:** The bill may increase employer interest in offering structured work-based learning opportunities, potentially expanding placements but requiring clear guidance on wage compliance.
4. **Participant Protections:** Boards should be attentive to safeguards for minors and other vulnerable populations, particularly regarding voluntary consent and duration limits.
5. **Policy Alignment:** Existing workforce board policies, contracts, and monitoring practices may need review to ensure alignment with the new statutory framework if enacted.

FUNDING: N/A

PERFORMANCE: N/A

NO ATTACHMENT



SFWIB EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

DATE: 2/12/2026

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 7

AGENDA ITEM SUBJECT: FLORIDA LEGISLATIVE UPDATE SENATE BILL 1300 EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT FOR CURRENT AND FORMER INMATES

AGENDA ITEM TYPE: **INFORMATIONAL**

RECOMMENDATION: N/A

STRATEGIC GOAL: **IMPROVE SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS W/ BARRIERS**

STRATEGIC PROJECT: **Develop specific programs and initiatives**

BACKGROUND:

Senate Bill 1300 (2026) proposes a multi-agency approach to strengthening education, training, and workforce reentry pathways for current and former inmates, with a strong emphasis on transportation-sector careers, particularly commercial driving. The bill expands allowable uses of workforce development funds, enhances coordination among the Department of Transportation (FDOT), Department of Corrections (DOC), Department of Financial Services (DFS), and employers, and creates new incentives for small employers to hire formerly incarcerated individuals. The bill takes effect July 1, 2026.

Summary of Key Provisions:

1. Expanded Use of Transportation Workforce Development Funds (FDOT)

The bill authorizes FDOT to expend workforce development funds on all workforce development programs, rather than limiting use solely to construction workforce development. Up to \$5 million annually (FY 2025–2026 through FY 2029–2030) may be awarded in grants to state colleges, school districts, and private education providers, with priority for rural communities. Eligible uses include certification and training programs, simulators, instructional equipment, and curriculum development within the Florida Transportation Academy.

2. Commercial Driver License (CDL) Training for Inmates

FDOT is required to coordinate with the Department of Corrections to provide certification and training opportunities for nonviolent inmates who are nearing release (scheduled release or two years or less remaining). Training programs must include preparation for Class A and Class B commercial driver licenses, and FDOT workforce development funds may be used to support these activities.

3. **Employer Reimbursement for Insurance Premiums (New s. 446.55, F.S.)**

The bill creates a new reimbursement program allowing small Florida-based employers (100 or fewer employees) to apply to DFS for reimbursement of a portion of workers' compensation and automobile liability insurance premiums for former inmates hired as commercial drivers with less than two years of driving experience.

- Reimbursement is capped at \$5,000 per employee and \$20,000 per employer, subject to legislative appropriation.
- Employers may not seek reimbursement for individuals convicted of specified disqualifying offenses.
- DFS must process complete applications within 45 days.

4. **Enhanced Correctional Education Reporting and Alignment with Labor Market Demand**

The bill requires the Correctional Education Program to strengthen labor market alignment by incorporating workforce demand data into vocational program selection. Annual reports must now include completion rates, post-release employment outcomes, and alignment between training and employment.

Expanded Vocational Programs in Corrections

- Develop and implement CDL training programs within correctional institutions;
- Expand entrepreneurship, firefighter training, and transportation-related vocational programs; and
- Allow eligible inmates in approved career and technical education or CDL programs to operate state-owned vehicles under limited, controlled circumstances for training purposes.

Key Considerations for the Board:

1. **Reentry and Second-Chance Employment:** The bill significantly expands opportunities to align workforce board reentry initiatives with state-funded CDL and transportation training pipelines.
2. **Sector Strategy Implications:** Transportation, logistics, and commercial driving are elevated as priority reentry occupations, potentially affecting local sector strategies and employer engagement plans.
3. **Employer Engagement Opportunities:** Transportation, logistics, and commercial driving are elevated as priority reentry occupations, potentially affecting local sector strategies and employer engagement plans.
4. **System Coordination:** Workforce boards may be expected to align local labor market data, career pathways, and employer demand with correctional education and FDOT-funded training efforts.
5. **Data and Performance Alignment:** Enhanced reporting requirements for correctional education may present opportunities for shared performance metrics related to post-release employment outcomes.

FUNDING: N/A

PERFORMANCE: N/A

NO ATTACHMENT



SFWIB EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

DATE: 2/12/2026

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 8

AGENDA ITEM SUBJECT: SOUTH DADE RURAL INITIATIVE AWARD

AGENDA ITEM TYPE: **INFORMATIONAL**

RECOMMENDATION: N/A

STRATEGIC GOAL: **IMPROVE SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS W/ BARRIERS**

STRATEGIC PROJECT: **Develop specific programs and initiatives**

BACKGROUND:

CareerSource South Florida (CSSF) has been formally awarded \$280,000 in state financial assistance under the FY 2025–2026 State Rural Workforce Initiative, as outlined in the attached Notice of Funding Agreement issued by the State of Florida. The award period runs from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026, with closeout required by August 31, 2026. These funds will support workforce development activities targeted to individuals and employers located in designated rural areas of South Miami-Dade County.

Key Points for Committee Awareness:

- The award is state-funded (non-WIOA) and provides enhanced flexibility to address local workforce needs, reduce administrative barriers, and streamline participant intake and service delivery.
- Allowable uses of funds include occupational skills training, work-based learning activities (such as on-the-job training, apprenticeships, internships, customized training, and incumbent worker training), employer engagement, and supportive services designed to improve training completion and employment outcomes.
- The initiative prioritizes residents of rural communities facing barriers to employment and supports efforts to strengthen local talent pipelines aligned with regional labor market demand.
- Administrative costs are limited to 10% of the total award, and expenditures must follow the approved project plan and state fiscal requirements.
- CSSF is required to submit quarterly programmatic and fiscal reports, participate in monthly technical assistance meetings with FloridaCommerce and CareerSource Florida, and maintain appropriate participant and employer data tracking in Employ Florida using designated project codes.

- The state has established expenditure benchmarks; failure to meet expected burn rates without justification may result in a reduction of awarded funds.

FUNDING: Unrestricted

PERFORMANCE: TBD

NO ATTACHMENT



SFWIB EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

DATE: 2/12/2026

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 9

AGENDA ITEM SUBJECT: WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT WAIVER REQUEST FOR YOUTH PROGRAM ELEMENTS

AGENDA ITEM TYPE: **INFORMATIONAL**

RECOMMENDATION: N/A

STRATEGIC GOAL: **STRONG WORKFORCE SYSTEM LEADERSHIP**

STRATEGIC PROJECT: **Strengthen workforce system accountability**

BACKGROUND:

SFWIB staff would like to inform the Executive Committee of its intent to submit a formal waiver request to the Florida Department of Commerce (FloridaCommerce) seeking flexibility under Section 129(c)(2) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) related to the delivery of the fourteen (14) required youth program elements.

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) requires that local youth programs provide 14 specific, comprehensive service elements to eligible individuals, aimed at education completion, skill development, and employment. Key components include paid/unpaid work experiences, occupational skills training, academic support (tutoring/dropout prevention), and supportive services. These services are designed to help in-school (ISY) and out-of-school youth (OSY) overcome barriers to employment and education.

The fourteen WIOA youth program elements are:

- Tutoring, study skills training, instruction, and dropout prevention
- Alternative secondary school services or dropout recovery services
- Paid and unpaid work experiences (e.g., summer employment, internships, job shadowing, pre-apprenticeship)
- Occupational skills training
- Education offered concurrently with and in the same context as workforce preparation
- Leadership development opportunities (e.g., community service, peer-centered activities)
- Supportive services (e.g., transportation, child care, uniforms)
- Adult mentoring (for at least 12 months)

- Follow-up services (for at least 12 months after program completion)
- Comprehensive guidance and counseling (including drug/alcohol abuse counseling)
- Financial literacy education
- Entrepreneurial skills training
- Services that provide labor market and employment information
- Postsecondary preparation and transition activities

If approved, the waiver would allow CareerSource South Florida (CSSF) to consolidate and prioritize youth program elements within an integrated, employer-driven service delivery model focused on pre-apprenticeship and Registered Apprenticeship pathways aligned with regional labor market demand. This approach is intended to shift youth services from a compliance-driven framework to a outcomes-focused model that accelerates entry into high-demand occupations.

Key benefits to the workforce region if the waiver is approved include:

- Increased flexibility to align WIOA youth investments with high-growth industry sectors and regional sector strategies.
- Faster and more direct pathways for youth to access paid work experience, pre-apprenticeships, Registered Apprenticeships, and industry-recognized credentials.
- Stronger employer engagement and more responsive talent pipelines that meet local workforce needs.
- Reduced administrative and documentation burden, allowing staff and providers to focus resources on high-impact services and participant outcomes.
- Improved employment, credential attainment, and economic mobility outcomes for disconnected and low-income youth, while maintaining accountability and equity in service delivery.

Staff will continue to ensure compliance with federal and state performance, fiscal, and reporting requirements and will provide updates to the Committee as the waiver request advances through state review.

FUNDING: N/A

PERFORMANCE: N/A

NO ATTACHMENT



SFWIB EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

DATE: 2/12/2026

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 10

AGENDA ITEM SUBJECT: YOUTH BUILD GRANT 2026

AGENDA ITEM TYPE: **INFORMATIONAL**

RECOMMENDATION: N/A

STRATEGIC GOAL: **DEDICATED COMMITMENT TO YOUTH PARTICIPATION**

STRATEGIC PROJECT: **Expand career exploration pathway programs**

BACKGROUND:

The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), Employment and Training Administration is supporting a YouthBuild Workforce Development Program that provides education, training and leadership development opportunities to young people who face barriers to employment. The Workforce Innovation Act (WIOA) designates YouthBuild as a pre-apprenticeship model, which requires alignment with local employer needs, supportive services for participants, career exploration, credential opportunities, and partnerships with one or more apprenticeship programs.

YouthBuild participants must be between the ages of 16 and 24. Most participants have left high school without a diploma, a member of a low-income family, a foster youth, a court-involved youth, a youth with a disability, a child of an incarcerated parent or a migrant youth.

Participants will spend at least 50 percent of program time receiving education services that may lead to either a high school diploma or its state-recognized equivalent. They will spend 40 percent of the program engaged in workforce and skills development activities. All DOL-funded YouthBuild programs must train participants in construction while they build or significantly renovate at least one unit of housing for homeless individuals, low-income families or transitional housing for homeless individuals.

The period of performance for YouthBuild grants is 40 months: a planning period of up to 4 months; two years of active program services for one or more cohorts of youth; and 12 months of follow-up services and tracking of participant outcomes. Most programs also train participants in other in-demand industries such as healthcare, advanced manufacturing, or hospitality. This additional training is known as Construction Plus. Participants spend up to 10 percent of program time engaged in leadership development and community service activities.

Applicants may apply for a grant ranging from \$1,000,000 to a ceiling amount of \$2,000,000. DOL has established a cost per participant for the YouthBuild program, based on an analysis of previous grant award enrollment and spending trends. DOL is using an estimated cost per participant of \$23,000 cost per participant.

- Application deadline is 03/02/2026 @11:59 PM EST
- Expected Period of Performance Start Date: 07/01/2026
- Period of Performance Length: 40 months

FUNDING: N/A

PERFORMANCE: N/A

NO ATTACHMENT



SFWIB EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

DATE: 2/12/2026

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 11

AGENDA ITEM SUBJECT: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REVIEW

AGENDA ITEM TYPE: **DISCUSSION**

RECOMMENDATION: N/A

STRATEGIC GOAL: **STRONG WORKFORCE SYSTEM LEADERSHIP**

STRATEGIC PROJECT: **Strengthen workforce system accountability**

BACKGROUND:

The SFWIB Executive Committee shall conduct a closed board session to discuss personal matters of the Executive Director. In accordance with Florida Statute §718.112, §720.303 and §286.011 the SFWIB is providing public notification of this closed board session.

FUNDING: N/A

PERFORMANCE: N/A

NO ATTACHMENT