

Jamie Link Education & Labor Cabinet Secretary

Andy Beshear Governor

# **Public Policy Committee Meeting**

# Minutes

December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024 9:00am – 10:00am (EST)

#### <u>Zoom</u>

Meeting ID: 859 4707 5457 Passcode: 654000

### Attendees

Nanci Howard (Vocational Rehabilitation Administrator) Diana Merzweiler (Chair) Katie Wolf Whaley (Council Chair/Committee Member Jeff White (Council Member) Andrew Johnson (Council Member) Allison Johnson (Committee Member) Amy Luttrell (Council Member) Holly Hendricks (Vocational Rehabilitation Division Director) Justin Jeter (Committee Member)

# **Members Absent**

McNabb Cora (Council Member) Luv Tesha Robertson (Council Member) Gretta Hylton (Council Member)

#### Welcome

Administrator, Nanci Howard and Chair, Diana Merzweiler welcomed everyone to the meeting. The agenda was reviewed by all participants.

# **KDE Transition 360 Module Update**

Discussion was held regarding the development of an Ad Hoc group to assist with the review of the IEP Guidance document and Transition 360 modules. It was determined a meeting would be set up between the Chair of the Employment First Council, Katie Wolf

Whaley, and Allison Johnson of the Kentucky Department of Education in early January to explore Transition 360 content in more detail before forming a work group. Others in the committee are invited to participate in the work group once more information has been gathered.

### Medicaid Buy-In and Eligibility Requirements

Discussion was held regarding two barriers to employment regarding the current Medicaid Buy-In and eligibility requirements. Committee member, Jeff White, provided the overview of the issues. Committee member, Amy Luttrell, made a suggestion to fold these issues in with other public benefits eligibility standards and approaching it as a workforce issue. It was determined the committee would draft an overview of the issue and offer potential solutions that the legislatures could impact.

The committee considered the following questions when drafting the overview.

What is the barrier? What is the recommendation? What is the cost associated with the changes? What would Kentucky gain in return?

It was also suggested to have fiscal information ready to answer any specific questions regarding potential appropriations.

Michael Dalto, a Subject Matter Expert with Project NEON, was suggested as a contact to assist as he may have other state research.

Amy Luttrell will collaborate with Justin Jeter and her policy staff member, Adam Haley to discuss and research legislative process and approach. Jeff White agreed to reach out to Michael Dalto for assistance to see if the draft is something that he could assist the committee with.

#### **Next Meeting:**

- Date: Thursday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025
- Time: 9:00 am to 10:00 am



Created by: Nanci Howard, Administrator

Education and Labor Cabinet, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation 500 Mero Street • 4<sup>th</sup> Floor NE • Frankfort, KY 40601