

Commerce Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No: HB-5321 / [Bill Status](#) / [Public Hearing Testimony](#)

AN ACT CONCERNING WORKFORCE SHORTAGES, WORKFORCE
Title: DEVELOPMENT AND WORKFORCE TRAINING.

Vote Date: 3/5/2026

Vote Action: Joint Favorable

PH Date: 3/3/2026

File No.: 63

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Commerce Committee

CO - SPONSORS OF BILL:

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REASONS FOR BILL:

H.B. 5321 was raised to gain a clearer picture of state level workforce shortages and rectify this issue by addressing workforce training and development overall.

This bill requires the Commissioner of the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) to conduct a study focused on workforce development and training availability.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

[Department of Economic and Community Development, Commissioner, Daniel O'Keefe](#)

writes in opposition of this bill, citing that the responsibilities outlined in this bill already belongs to another agency. The Office of Workforce Strategy (OWS) is responsible for the development and execution of the state workforce strategic plan, per their role as the Governor's Workforce Council.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

No supporting testimony has been submitted.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

No oppositional testimony has been submitted.

Reported by: Enumaah Dadzie, Assistant Clerk Date: 3/16/26