

# **INTERIM JOINT COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND REVENUE**

## **Budget Review Subcommittee on Economic Development, Tourism, and Environmental Protection**

### **Minutes of the 5th Meeting of the 2021 Interim**

**November 16, 2021**

#### **Call to Order and Roll Call**

The fifth meeting of the Budget Review Subcommittee on Economic Development, Tourism, and Environmental Protection of the Interim Joint Committee on Appropriations and Revenue was held on Tuesday, November 16, 2021, at 9:00 AM, in Room 154 of the Capitol Annex. Senator Matt Castlen, Chair, called the meeting to order, and the secretary called the roll.

Present were:

Members: Senator Matt Castlen, Co-Chair; Representative Lynn Bechler, Co-Chair; Senators Morgan McGarvey, Wil Schroder, and Brandon Smith; Representatives Al Gentry, David Hale, Savannah Maddox, and Russell Webber.

Guests: Dr. Kris Williams, Chancellor, Kentucky Community and Technical College System; Dr. Phil Neal, President, Southcentral Kentucky Community and Technical College; Dr. Scott Williams, President, Owensboro Community and Technical College; David Horseman, Associate Commissioner, Office of Career and Technical Education, Kentucky Department of Education; Leslie Slaughter, Policy Advisor, office of Career and Technical Education. Kentucky Department of Education; Katie Smith, Secretary and Commissioner of Finance, Cabinet for Economic Development; Kristina Slattery, Deputy Commissioner of Business Development, Cabinet for Economic Development; Senator Damon Thayer, Majority Floor Leader, District 17; Hank Phillips, President and CEO, Kentucky Travel Industry Association.

LRC Staff: Sara Rome, Kevin Newton, Joseph Holt, and Amie Elam

The minutes from September 4, 2021, were approved in their entirety.

#### **Kentucky Tourism: Recovery and Investment**

Hank Phillips and Senator Thayer discussed the Kentucky tourism recovery and investment proposal. The presentation included information on the need and opportunities for American Rescue Plan Act funds.

In response to a question from Representative Bechler, Senator Thayer said that it is not the job of the government to tell businesses how to operate. Mr. Phillips added that the Kentucky Travel Industry Association would not dictate that funds be withheld from businesses with vaccine mandates.

### **Advertising to Meet Workforce Needs**

Representatives from the Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS) gave a presentation focusing on matching workforce supply to industry demand. The presentation included information about Work Ready, apprenticeships, and job placement programs.

In response to a question from Representative Bechler, Dr. Kris Williams said that KCTCS is satisfied with the state funding model. Dr. Neal and Dr. Scott Williams added that performance-based funding is working well for their universities. Dr. Scott Williams said that he hopes the model will remain well funded.

In response to a question from Representative Hale, Dr. Kris Williams answered that tuition is the same for every college across the system. She added that in-state tuition is offered for online courses.

### **Student Career Pathways**

David Horseman and Leslie Slaughter from the Kentucky Department of Education gave a presentation about student career pathways. The presentation included a historical look at vocational education and an update on workforce alignment efforts.

### **Kentucky's Workforce Training Needs**

Katie Smith and Kristina Slattery from the Cabinet for Economic Development spoke to the committee about training needs for Kentucky's workforce. Recruitment efforts, top industries, and wage growth statistics were included in the presentation.

There being no further business to come before the subcommittee, the meeting adjourned at 10:47 a.m.