Future of Work Task Force
Meeting 1 Minutes
September 28, 2021

I.   Call to order
        The meeting was called to order at 10:12 am by Senator Ram Villivalam

II.   Opening Remarks
        Senator Ram Villivalam and Representative Marcus Evans offered opening remarks. They
        thank the task force for coming together to tackle the future of workforce and the complex
        issues it presents. HB645 was a joint effort on their behalf to create the task force and
        develop solutions, noting that the future of work is happening now.

III.   Motion to approve the bylaws
        Director Kristin Richards motions to approve the bylaws
        Senator DeWitte seconds the motion
        The motion to approve the bylaws passes 27 yeas 0 nays

IV.   Roll Call
        Senator Ram Villivalam call the roll and the following were present:
        Representative Marcus Evans
        Senator Cristina Castro
        Andrea Kluger
        Colleen Daley
        Senator Don DeWitte
        Tyler Diers
        Clark Kaericher
        Representative Will Guzzardi
        Magda Derisma
        Alec Laird
        Dalene Bramer
        Sarah Hartwick
        Julian Federle
        Erica Bland
        Delmar Gillus
        Juan Salgado
        Mike Ciaccio
        Steve Campbell
        Ai-Jen Poo
        Director Michael Kleinik
        Director Sylvia Garcia
        Director Kristin Richards
        Marci Johnson on behalf of Superintendent Carmen Ayala
        Brian Durham
        Ginger Ostro

V.   Short introductions of task force members

VI.   Keynote Speakers
        Felicia Wong, Roosevelt Institute President and CEO
            o   Big picture of economic policy includes good investment & leadership
            o   We have learned that we need more government spending to support healthy economy
            o   Illinois has made impressive policy improvements including childcare development and the climate bill
                ▪   Just transition
                ▪   Green bank
                ▪   Displaced worker bill of rights
        Shelly Steward, Aspen Institute
            o   Task Force will need to consider the following questions:
                ▪   Will there be enough jobs?
                ▪   Will there be enough good jobs?
                ▪   How will technology change jobs?
                ▪   How does work intersect with other challenges?
            o   Data suggests many workers:
                ▪   Have experienced a decline in job quality and benefits
                ▪   Are increasingly seeking a side gig
            o   Other challenges that intersect with the future of work:
                ▪   Racial justice
                ▪   Climate change
                ▪   Public health
        Brian Fabes, Corporate Coalition of Chicago
            o   In the current economy:
                ▪   Wage gains have largely gone to the highest-paying jobs over the past few decades
                ▪   The number of jobs that pay at wage levels in the middle of the distribution have fallen, while other parts of the distribution rise
                ▪   More than 60% of jobs today didn't exist 80 years ago
            o   People in lower-wage jobs don't see a path to higher paying jobs.
            o   Look to technology and innovation to build a robust economy with thriving employees.
            o   People need work to be about more than just a paycheck; it's about social connection, security, dignity, creativity, and more.
            o   All these details about the future of work apply to both public and private sector workers.

VII.   Task Force Member Discussion
        Task force members participated in an activity where they independently wrote down topics that they thought were most important to the future of work on note cards and then

collectively discussed which ones were most important in their small groups. Results were collected to inform future task force discussions and research.

VIII. Call to Action
Senator Ram Villivalam encourages the task force to review the upcoming meeting topics and make sure it is addressing all issues and encourages the members to look at the assignment from all perspectives.

IX. Worker Roundtable
Erica Bland led a roundtable of representatives from organizations that represent workers:
Andrea Tinsley, UFCW/Mariano's
  o Discussed the effects of riots and COVID on frontline workers
Sophia Zaman, Raise the Floor
  o Discuss the need to represent low wage workers and offer worker protections
Roberto Clack, WWJ
  o Create a better safety net for workers including increased wages, benefits and paid time off

X. Closing Remarks
Representative Will Guzzardi and Senator DeWitte offered closing remarks.
Next meeting will be October 5, 2021

XI. The meeting closed at 12:51pm