WHEREAS, the economic future of Idaho and the prosperity of its residents depends upon the ability of businesses in Idaho to compete in the world economy; and

WHEREAS, a well-educated and highly skilled workforce provides Idaho employers with a competitive edge critical for their success; and

WHEREAS, Idaho is committed to preparing its current and future workforce with the skills necessary for the 21st century; and

WHEREAS, empowering business, labor and community leaders to take a more active and strategic role in crafting the state’s economic and workforce development policy will enhance the quality and responsiveness of these programs; and

WHEREAS, a comprehensive workforce development strategy for Idaho will improve planning and oversight functions; increase public awareness of and access to workforce development education and training opportunities; improve the effectiveness, quality and coordination of services designed to maintain a highly skilled workforce; and help provide for the most efficient use of federal, state and local workforce development resources; and

WHEREAS, the Governor’s Workforce Development Task Force recommended that the State of Idaho “Increase the role and responsibilities of an industry-driven Workforce Development Council to champion the development and implementation of a statewide, strategic workforce development plan that meets industries’ needs today and tomorrow;”

NOW, THEREFORE, I, C.L. “Butch” Otter, Governor of the State of Idaho, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of this state do hereby order that:

1. The Workforce Development Council (the “Council”) is established within the Executive Office of the Governor in accordance with section 101 (a) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) of 2014 to coordinate efforts and direct public outreach and engagement in support of improving the quality of and access to workforce education and training programs throughout Idaho.

2. The Council shall consist of 36 members, consistent with federal nomination and composition requirements set forth in section 101 (b) of WIOA. The Council’s membership shall be as follows:

   a. 17 positions appointed by the Governor representing industry and nominated by statewide and regional business organizations;

   b. Seven positions appointed by the Governor representing the workforce, including two labor union representatives, two registered apprenticeship program representatives, one representative of a community-based
organization for veterans, one representative of a community-based organization for the disabled, and one representative of a community-based organization for out-of-school youth;

c. Nine positions appointed by the Governor representing government, including representatives from the Department of Labor, State Board of Education, Division of Career-Technical Education, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Department of Health and Welfare, Department of Commerce, an elected city official, an elected county official, and a community college representative.

d. One member from each chamber of the Idaho Legislature, including a member of the Senate appointed by the Senate President Pro Tem, and a member of the House of Representatives appointed by the House Speaker;

e. The Governor or his designee.

3. The Governor shall name the chair and vice chair from among industry members of the Council.

4. The Council’s members shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor, and their appointments shall be for three-year terms.

5. The Council shall be staffed by an executive director appointed by the Governor and such additional personnel as shall be appointed by the executive director.

6. The Council will be responsible for advising the Governor, Legislature and appropriate executive agencies on matters related to developing and implementing a comprehensive workforce development strategy for Idaho that:

a. Increases public awareness of and access to career education and training opportunities;

b. Improves the effectiveness, quality and coordination of programs and services designed to maintain a highly skilled workforce;

c. Helps provide for the most efficient use of federal, state and local workforce development resources;

7. The Council will assist the Governor in fulfilling the requirements of the State Workforce Investment Board as set forth in WIOA.

8. The Council shall be responsible for developing and overseeing procedures, criteria and performance measures for the Workforce Development Training Fund.

9. The Council may empanel special committees, appointed by the chair. Special committee members may include non-Council members who have special knowledge and qualifications to be of assistance to the Council.

10. The Council shall meet quarterly. An Executive Committee made up of the chair, vice chair, and three additional Council members appointed by the chair and representing industry should meet monthly. The Executive Committee is authorized to act on the Council’s behalf as necessary and shall report its actions at the Council’s next regular meeting.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Idaho at the Capitol in Boise on this 13th day of December, in the year of our Lord two thousand and seventeen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred forty-second and of the Statehood of Idaho the one hundred twenty-eighth.

C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER
GOVERNOR

LAWERENCE DENNEY
SECRETARY OF STATE