



THE STATE OF GEORGIA

EXECUTIVE ORDER

BY THE GOVERNOR:

ESTABLISHING THE HEALTHCARE WORKFORCE COMMISSION

WHEREAS: The State of Georgia is experiencing significant challenges in the hiring and retention of healthcare workers, including, but not limited to, nurses, physicians, respiratory therapists, emergency medical personnel, and other clinical and nonclinical personnel; and

WHEREAS: These challenges were exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS: The shortage of healthcare workers has had a negative impact on Georgia's healthcare infrastructure and the ability of Georgia residents to access healthcare services; and

WHEREAS: To ensure the future health of Georgians and Georgia's healthcare system, it is imperative for state government and industry leaders to examine the current state of our healthcare workforce and identify strategies and recommendations for promoting increased workforce availability, hiring, and retention.

NOW, THEREFORE, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME AS GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA, IT IS HEREBY

ORDERED: That the Healthcare Workforce Commission is hereby established.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That the Healthcare Workforce Commission shall conduct a thorough study of the state's current healthcare workforce pipeline, including, but not limited to, identifying significant data trends in healthcare workforce changes and areas of concern within the existing pipeline, and shall make recommendations for improvements to said pipeline, including, but not limited to, recommendations regarding the expansion of education

programs and clinical placements, methods to further develop and strengthen the pipeline, scholarship and loan forgiveness programs that may support workforce initiatives, investments in technology to improve workforce readiness and expand educational program capacity, and programs and strategies to improve retention and resilience of the current healthcare workforce.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That the Healthcare Workforce Commission shall make a report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor no later than December 31, 2022.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That the Healthcare Workforce Commission shall be composed of fifteen (15) members to be appointed by, and serve at the pleasure of, the Governor, consisting of the following:

- a. The Commissioner of the Department of Community Health, or his or her designee, who shall be the chairperson;
- b. Two representatives from the field of practicing medicine;
- c. Two representatives from the field of nursing;
- d. Two representatives from the field of emergency medical response;
- e. Two representatives from the field of mental healthcare;
- f. Two representatives from the hospital industry, one of whom being a hospital administrator;
- g. A representative from the long-term care industry; and
- h. Three representatives from the field of healthcare education.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That the Healthcare Workforce Commission shall collaborate with the Georgia Board of Healthcare Workforce and the Office of Health Strategy and Coordination in making its findings and recommendations.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That the Department of Community Health shall be authorized to use any funds within its authority as needed to support the completion of the Healthcare Workforce Commission's duties as set forth herein.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That members of the Healthcare Workforce Commission shall receive no compensation for their services, except that any members who are state officers or employees may be reimbursed for expenses incurred in the performance of their duties by the agency or department in which they serve as an officer or employee.

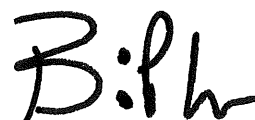
IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That if one or more of the provisions contained in this Order shall be held to be invalid, in violation of the Georgia Constitution, in violation of Georgia law, or unenforceable in any respect, such invalidity, violation, or unenforceability shall not affect any other provisions of this Order, but, in such case, this Order shall be construed as if such invalid, illegal, or unenforceable provision had never been contained within the Order.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That this Order shall be effective upon signature and remain in effect until December 31, 2022.

This 21st day of April 2022.



GOVERNOR