

**SENATE . . . . . No. 1340**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Patricia D. Jehlen***

*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:*

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act to make data on workforce development outcomes public and accessible.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

*Patricia D. Jehlen*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*Second Middlesex*

**SENATE . . . . . No. 1340**

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By Ms. Jehlen, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1340) of Patricia D. Jehlen for legislation to make data on workforce development outcomes public and accessible. Labor and Workforce Development.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. 1187 OF 2023-2024.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court  
(2025-2026)**  
\_\_\_\_\_

An Act to make data on workforce development outcomes public and accessible.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1           SECTION 1. Section 14P of chapter 151A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022  
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking the last sentence in subsection (f) and inserting  
3 the following:-

4           The director shall provide information secured under this section to other entities,  
5 including any federal, state, or local governmental agency, including the 16 Masshire workforce  
6 development boards, as defined under 20 CFR Chapter V pt 603, and a chief elected official as  
7 that term is defined in Section 3102(9) of Title 29 of the United States Code, or the agents or  
8 contractors of any governmental agency, where such information is to be used for:

- 9 (1) evaluation of program performance, including, but not limited to, longitudinal  
10 outcome analysis of programs (including programs funded by public or private funds or a  
11 combination thereof) to the extent permitted by federal law;
- 12 (2) financial or other analysis required by federal, state, or local law or regulation;
- 13 (3) preparation of reports required by federal, state, or local law or regulation;
- 14 (4) operation of public programs by such agencies, their agents, contractors and  
15 subcontractors, whenever the director determines that such information sharing is for the purpose  
16 of improving the quality or delivery of program services or to evaluate programs for equitable  
17 access and outcomes;
- 18 (5) establishment of common case management systems between federal, state, or  
19 local agencies delivering or supporting workforce development services for a shared customer  
20 base, wherever such common case management system is for the purpose of fostering workforce  
21 development partnerships, program coordination, inter-agency collaboration, improving program  
22 services, or creating operational efficiencies.

23 SECTION 2: Said section 14P of said chapter 151A, as so appearing, is hereby further  
24 amended by inserting after subsection (i) the following subsection:-

25 (j) The department shall do the following:

26 (1) Develop the minimum requirements, as specified under 20 CFR pt 603 subpart B  
27 section 603.10, for granting a request for disclosure of information authorized by this section  
28 regardless of local, state, or federal funding source,

29           (2) Develop a standard application for submitting a request for disclosure of information  
30 authorized by this section.

31           (3) Approve or deny a request for disclosure of information authorized by this subsection,  
32 or request additional information, within 30 business days of receiving the standard application.  
33 The entity submitting the application shall respond to any request by the department for  
34 additional information within 20 business days of receipt of the department's request. Within 30  
35 calendar days of receiving any additional information, the department shall provide a final  
36 approval or denial of the request for disclosure of information authorized by this subsection. Any  
37 approval, denial, or request for additional information shall be in writing. Denials shall identify  
38 the reason or category of reasons for the denial.

39           (4) Make publicly available on the department's website: the minimum requirements for  
40 granting a request for disclosure of information authorized by this section, the standard  
41 application developed, the timeframe for information request determinations by the department,  
42 contact information for assistance with requests for disclosures of information authorized by this  
43 subdivision.

44           (5) For wage data requests that are approved for the department of career services and the  
45 Masshire workforce development boards, on a quarterly basis the director of the department of  
46 career services shall report to the department the following information on participants, at a  
47 minimum, and to the extent the data are available, in order to be appended to the wage match  
48 file: participant demographic information; workforce training program and service participation,  
49 geographical location of services, and educational and other credential attainment. The

50 department shall adhere to all applicable state and federal privacy laws, to protect individuals'  
51 private information while allowing measurement of aggregate data.

52 SECTION 3. Not later than 30 days after the effective date of this act, the executive  
53 office of labor and workforce development, in consultation with division of unemployment  
54 assistance, the department of career services, the commonwealth corporation, the Massachusetts  
55 workforce association, the workforce solutions group, and any other appropriate agencies or  
56 entities, shall convene a task force to develop the action steps required to improve state  
57 workforce data infrastructure and promote data use, with the goal of creating data systems that  
58 can illustrate how workforce education and training programs are providing opportunity for  
59 sustainable employment in the commonwealth. The task force shall develop action steps to  
60 accomplish the following:

61 (1) Connect education, workforce development and employment data with such data from  
62 other states, to the extent permitted by law and in a manner that protects individuals' private  
63 information while allowing measurement of aggregate data; and

64 (2) Ensure adherence to data security and privacy principles, and all applicable state and  
65 federal privacy laws, to protect individuals' private information while allowing measurement of  
66 aggregate data; and

67 (3) Improve access to and quality of the wage data is shared with the workforce system  
68 by working with the department of career services and the department of unemployment  
69 assistance to ensure that the wage data files shared between each agency have sufficient  
70 information to allow for effective and ongoing workforce program evaluation; and

71 (4) Direct the executive office of labor and workforce development to participate in the  
72 Massachusetts education-to-career data system and any other state longitudinal data system  
73 efforts; and

74 (5) Review quarterly measures, identifying key trends, analyze equitable access to  
75 programs and services, and ensure system partners, stakeholders, and the public have access to  
76 data as allowed under state and federal privacy laws; and

77 (6) Develop a two and six-year plan to guide future system improvements.

78 The task force shall submit a report, with its findings and recommendations, together  
79 with drafts of legislation necessary to carry those recommendations into effect by filing the same  
80 with the clerks of the house of representatives and senate, the house and senate committees on  
81 ways and means, the joint committee on economic development and emerging technologies, the  
82 joint committee on labor and workforce development, the joint committee on higher education  
83 and the office of the governor not later than January 1, 2026.