Prior law provides that the executive director of the La. Workforce Commission, the secretary of the Dept. of Children and Family Services, the secretary of the La. Dept. of Health, the state superintendent of education, and the president of the La. Community and Technical College System, referred to collectively as the "state partners", collaborate to design and implement a workforce training and education initiative for public assistance recipients. Prior law further provides that the initiative's purposes are to improve employment opportunities and promote workforce advancement.

New law retains prior law and provides for an advisory board to assist the state partners and provides for the advisory board membership and meetings.

Prior law requires the state partners to design the initiative's operations and system of services to facilitate replication of the program in all regions of the state.

New law retains prior law and requires, prior to the design and implementation of the initiative, the advisory board to conduct meetings for the purpose of receiving public input regarding the program.

Prior law provides for the pilot initiative to operate and serve participants in certain regions.

New law changes the initial areas served to the following parishes: Concordia, East Carroll, Madison, Morehouse, Ouachita, Richland, St. Landry, and Tensas.

Prior law provides that, if agreed to by the head of each state partner, the partners may expand the geographic service area of the pilot initiative beyond the initial regions.

New law retains prior law but removes the requirement for agreement by each state partner.

Prior law provides for the duties of the state partners in implementing and administering the initiative.

New law retains prior law but makes technical changes.

Prior law provides for the state partners to submit annual reports providing a summary and evaluation of the initiative's outcomes to the legislative committees on labor and industrial relations and to the legislative committees on health and welfare.

New law retains prior law and provides for the annual report also to be provided to the advisory board.

New law authorizes the initiative to provide vocational education, basic education, educational certificates, and supportive services.

New law makes technical changes by changing "regions" to "parishes".

Effective June 16, 2022.

(Amends R.S. 46:351-356)