

State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

February 18, 2019

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 90

ESTABLISHING THE GOVERNOR'S ENTREPRENEURIAL COUNCIL

WHEREAS, entrepreneurship is a significant part of the State of North Carolina's vibrant and dynamic economy; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina's economic growth is driven by the financial, food and grocery manufacturing, information technology, advanced manufacturing, and pharmaceutical sectors; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina is committed to identifying, implementing, and supporting policies that foster and promote entrepreneurship, economic development, and sustainable, high-quality jobs; and

WHEREAS, collaborations between the state and entrepreneurs have helped assist North Carolina workers and businesses in transitioning to the new economy; and

WHEREAS, additional measures can ensure that there is continued entrepreneurial growth and innovation in the state's economy, particularly in the state's financial, food and grocery manufacturing, information technology, advanced manufacturing, and pharmaceutical sectors; and

WHEREAS, the State should identify what, if any, new strategic investments are needed in higher education and other areas to ensure continued entrepreneurial growth and innovation; and

WHEREAS, capitalizing on prior public-private initiatives will help prepare the state's workers and businesses to compete successfully in the new economy; and

WHEREAS, a new advisory council will identify and support the implementation of policies that promote entrepreneurship in the state.

NOW, THEREFORE, by the authority vested in me as Governor by the Constitution and the laws of the State of North Carolina, **IT IS ORDERED**:

Section 1. Establishment

The Governor's Entrepreneurial Council ("the Council") is hereby established within the Office of the Governor.

Section 2. Membership

- a. The Governor shall have sole appointment authority and shall appoint at least twelve (12) members to the Council. This does not include the ex-officio member included in Section 2.d of this Executive Order. All members shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.
- b. The Council shall be comprised of representatives from public and private entities, businesses, organizations, and non-profits. At least (5) five members shall be representatives from the following:
 - i. A higher learning institution;
 - ii. A company or non-profit focusing on entrepreneurial development;
 - iii. The health sciences sector;
 - iv. A financial investment entity or institution; and
 - v. The technology sector.

The remaining Council members shall have expertise, experience, or training in economic development, education, entrepreneurship, and/or workforce development.

- c. Members shall represent the diverse demographic groups and geographic regions of the state.
- d. The Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Commerce, or the Secretary's designee, shall serve as an ex-officio Council member.
- e. Any vacancy on the Council shall be filled by the Governor.
- f. The chair of the Council shall be designated by the Governor and serve at the Governor's pleasure.

Section 3. Meetings

- a. The Council shall meet upon the call of the chair or upon the written request of a majority of the Council's membership.
- b. The Council may conduct meetings using any conferencing means.
- c. A majority of the Council's total membership shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Section 4. Duties

The Council shall have the following duties:

- a. Formulate and propose policies to the Office of the Governor and the North Carolina General Assembly that would promote entrepreneurship in the state, particularly in the financial, food and grocery manufacturing, information technology, advanced manufacturing, and pharmaceutical sectors.
- b. Provide an annual report to the Office of the Governor documenting the state of entrepreneurship in North Carolina.
- c. Examine and identify means through which the North Carolina Community College system and the University of North Carolina system can help support entrepreneurship.
- d. Review existing state and local small business programs and identify whether and/or how these programs should be improved.
- e. Review best practices for entrepreneurial development and determine the feasibility of implementing such measures in North Carolina.

- f. Identify strategies to improve coordination and collaboration among stakeholders in entrepreneurial development.
- g. Identify and review new and existing applied research and technology deployments.
- h. Identify additional public and private infrastructure investments that will help maintain the State's economic competitiveness.
- i. Identify new potential funding and/or financing sources for entrepreneurs within the state.
- j. Provide advice and input in consultation with the Office of the Governor on other issues affecting or related to entrepreneurship in the State of North Carolina.
- k. Take any additional steps necessary to foster and promote entrepreneurship in the State of North Carolina.


Section 5. Administration

- a. The North Carolina Department of Commerce and the Office of the Governor shall provide staff and administrative support services for the Council.
- b. Except as provided by this Executive Order or other law, the Council shall formulate any policies, procedures, or definitions necessary to carry out its advisory duties under this Executive Order.
- c. Council members shall serve without compensation but may receive necessary travel and subsistence expenses in accordance with state law and the policies and rules of the North Carolina Office of State Budget and Management.

Section 6. Duration

This Executive Order is effective immediately. It supersedes and replaces all other Executive Orders on this subject. It shall remain in effect until February 28, 2022, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 147-16.2, or until rescinded.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto signed my name and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in the City of Raleigh, this 18th day of February in the year of our Lord two thousand and nineteen.



Roy Cooper
Governor

ATTEST:



Elaine F. Marshall
Secretary of State

