

NGA 2018-2019 Chair's Initiative: *Good Jobs for All Americans*
Regional Leadership Workshop – September 12-13, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Meeting Summary

How do we make sure that every American can have a job that not only has great value to them, but lets them climb the economic ladder?

- Montana Governor Steve Bullock



Strategy One

Workforce of the Future: Positioning State Economies for Success.
Priorities from states:

- 1) Leverage business-led leadership to bring together employers and education;
- 2) Cultivate local champions in each community, and build inclusive local plans;
- 3) Incentivize innovation in government: develop a flexible, entrepreneurial mindset at all levels of government;
- 4) Focus on sustainability on day one, including developing a good relationship with the state legislature; and
- 5) Serve as a clearinghouse for information for employers and workers. Identify new jobs and connect workers to accurate information about these jobs.

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Strategy Two

Second Acts: Reskilling Mid-Career Workers.

Priorities from states:

- 1) View the public sector as an employer, and model the practices you want to promote;
- 2) Develop easy-to-access training programs that meet workers where they are and equip them with the skills for employment in new occupational areas;
- 3) Get the word out – share success stories and use a variety of marketing approaches;
- 4) Have strategies to identify and address the non-skill barriers to employment;
- 5) Move beyond business engagement to business partnerships - challenge companies to give back; and
- 6) Be willing to embrace new technology to better share information between the public and private sectors.

Strategy Three

Rural Resurgence: Empowering the Rural Workforce.

Priorities from states:

- 1) Recognize that rural communities can look very different and need different solutions or investments in different types of infrastructure – let local input guide policy;
- 2) Identify future jobs opportunities for rural workers, including work that can be done remotely;
- 3) Engage and support existing rural employers by developing a business-friendly and entrepreneurial climate; and
- 4) Bring together partners in communities like economic development organizations, and family foundations for seed funds.

Youth are preparing for a future that they cannot really imagine today.

- Boyd Rutherford, Lt. Governor of Maryland