

JobsOhio president introduces new state strategy

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Written by Loren Genson

Under leadership from Gov. John Kasich and authorization from the Ohio legislature, the Ohio Department of Development hopes to privatize business development, while streamlining current services to make them more efficient.

At a standing-room-only meeting with economic development leaders from 25 Appalachian counties, Mark Kvamme, president of JobsOhio, rolled out the new state strategy for attracting business.

"We have an amazing product to sell here in Ohio," said Kvamme, a venture capitalist from California who moved to Ohio this year after Kasich tapped him to head the new, non-profit corporation. He said a private entity can have more success in reaching out to potential and current business to help them meet their needs and grow Ohio [jobs](#).

"The government doesn't create jobs," Kvamme said. "The private sector creates jobs."

JobsOhio will partner with the Appalachian Business Council to create a regional development office to serve 25 counties in Appalachia including Ross and Pike Counties. Similar regional offices in five other regions -- based in Cincinnati, Dayton, Columbus, Toledo and Cleveland -- will serve the rest of the state.

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