



Resolution to Support Governor Pat McCrory's Call to Action Aligning the Talent Pipeline to Meet the Needs of the Economy

WHEREAS, fifty years ago, 79 percent of jobs required a high school diploma or less but, by 2015, only 35 percent of jobs were available to high school graduates and dropouts; and

WHEREAS, a 2015 survey of nearly 2,000 North Carolina employers conducted by the NC Department of Commerce Labor and Economic Analysis Division (LEAD) found that 36 percent of North Carolina businesses who attempted to hire for at least one position over the past year had difficulty; and

WHEREAS, the top three reasons for hiring difficulties were lack of relevant work experience; lack of necessary education level, certification, or training; and lack of technical or occupational-related skills; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina faces a gap between educational attainment and industry's projected need for educated workers in specific industries, including scientific and technical services, construction, health care, and manufacturing; and

WHEREAS, to ensure that North Carolina is prepared for future success, a statewide shared workforce development goal must be established to fulfill this economic and social need; and

WHEREAS, the NCWorks Commission is designated as the state's Workforce Investment Board under the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to oversee North Carolina's workforce development system;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that, the NCWorks Commission supports Governor Pat McCrory's call to action in setting a goal that by 2025, 67 percent of working-aged North Carolinians will have education and training beyond high school in order to meet the needs of the economy; and

THAT, in support of this goal, the NCWorks Commission will use education and workforce data to inform policy and track progress of the 67 percent goal and will support the implementation of an online reporting dashboard that all stakeholders can access to review progress towards meeting this goal using baseline data available via LEAD and our other workforce partners; and

THAT, in support of this goal, the NCWorks Commission will endorse and promote accessible and consistent NCWorks Career Pathways for critical industry clusters with multiple entry and exit points for both short- and long-term training in order to prepare individuals for in-demand jobs and provide valuable certificates and credentials; and will make recommendations to leverage state, federal and grant resources towards helping individuals gain the skills and experience needed for in-demand occupations; and will encourage participation in NCWorks Career Pathways programs; and

THAT, in support of this goal, the NCWorks Commission will work with partners to continuously improve and align workforce services at NCWorks Career Centers by evaluating customer feedback, cross-training staff to ensure they have the knowledge and skills required to improve local access to education and training, and developing a consistent outreach strategy to increase access to and participation in the workforce development system; and

THAT, in support of this goal, the NCWorks Commission will engage North Carolina businesses to identify skills needed to be an effective worker in the current and future marketplace and to encourage employer participation in the workforce development system; and

THAT, the Board directs Jerri Tryon, NCWorks Commission Chair, to enter a copy of this resolution into the official minutes of the NCWorks Commission and transmit a copy to the Governor’s Office.

Enacted the _____ day of _____.

Jerri Tryon, Chair
NCWorks Commission