

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE VCCS WORKFORCE CREDENTIALING INITIATIVE

WHEREAS, Albemarle County is home to Piedmont Community College, a campus which is part of the Virginia Community College System, and the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors strives to promote and support opportunities to diversify the County's economy and boost its competitiveness; and

WHEREAS, increasingly, workforce development equates to economic development and a large and increasing disparity between the job-filling needs of enterprise and available training and certification exists; and

WHEREAS, the need is critical to establish a determined, effective, performance-based program to train and prepare an adequate, on-going and growing number of our citizens with industry-recognized credentials; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Community College System Workforce Credentialing Initiative offers a specific plan to expand the number of workforce training credentials and certifications to a level needed to meet the demands of Virginia's workforce; and

WHEREAS, General Assembly House Bill 1206 establishes the Virginia Pathway to the Middle Class: Noncredit Workforce Credentials Program, to be administered by the Virginia Community College System (System), and requires, among other things, the System to approve a plan and funding formula to support capacity building for and development and expansion of noncredit workforce credential programs at comprehensive community colleges that prepare students for in-demand noncredit workforce credentials that are aligned with the knowledge and skill sets that are required for the available occupations in each region;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors fully supports HB 1206 and the implementation of the VCCS Workforce Credentialing Initiative as an innovative approach to building Virginia's existing workforce through an effective program to train and prepare citizens with such industry-recognized credentials and best position the Commonwealth to meet the demands of a diversifying, dynamic global economy and requests that HB 1206 be enacted into law.

I, Ella W. Jordan, do hereby certify that the foregoing writing is a true, correct copy of a Resolution duly adopted by the Board of Supervisors of Albemarle County, Virginia, by a vote of ____ to ____, as recorded below, at a regular meeting held on _____.

Clerk, Board of County Supervisors

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>
Mr. Dill	_____	_____
Ms. Mallek	_____	_____
Ms. McKeel	_____	_____
Ms. Palmer	_____	_____
Mr. Randolph	_____	_____
Mr. Sheffield	_____	_____

2016 SESSION

HB 1206 Comprehensive community colleges; Noncredit Workforce Credentials Act.Introduced by: Thomas A. "Tag" Greason | [all patrons](#) ... [notes](#) | [add to my profiles](#)**SUMMARY AS INTRODUCED:**

Comprehensive community colleges; noncredit workforce credentials; Virginia Pathway to the Middle Class: Noncredit Workforce Credentials Act. Establishes the Virginia Pathway to the Middle Class: Noncredit Workforce Credentials Program (Program), to be administered by the Virginia Community College System (System). The bill requires the System to approve (i) a plan and funding formula to support capacity building for and development and expansion of noncredit workforce credential programs at comprehensive community colleges that prepare students for in-demand noncredit workforce credentials that are aligned with the knowledge and skill sets that are required for the available occupations in each region, (ii) a plan for providing financial incentives to comprehensive community colleges that demonstrate exceptional performance or improvement in the development and expansion of such noncredit workforce credential programs, and (iii) a plan and timeline for assessing the impact of a pilot set of noncredit workforce credentials on short-term and long-term job attainment and wages. The bill requires the System to submit a report to the General Assembly and the Virginia Board of Workforce Development no later than January 1 of each year with certain data from the previous fiscal year on noncredit workforce credential attainment by students at comprehensive community colleges.

FULL TEXT**01/18/16 House: Presented and ordered printed** [pdf](#)**HISTORY**

01/18/16 House: Presented and ordered printed

01/18/16 House: Committee Referral Pending

2016 SESSION
16104243D

HOUSE BILL NO. 1206

Offered January 13, 2016

Prefiled January 18, 2016

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Chapter 16 of Title 23 an article numbered 2.2, consisting of sections numbered 23-220.6, 23-220.7, and 23-220.8, relating to comprehensive community colleges; noncredit workforce credentials; Virginia Pathway to the Middle Class: Noncredit Workforce Credentials Act.

Patron-- Greason

Committee Referral Pending

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Chapter 16 of Title 23 an article numbered 2.2, consisting of sections numbered 23-220.6, 23-220.7, and 23-220.8, as follows:

Article 2.2.

Virginia Pathway to the Middle Class: Noncredit Workforce Credentials Act.

§ 23-220.6. Definitions.

As used in this article, unless the context requires a different meaning:

"Competency-based" means awarded on the basis of demonstrated knowledge and skills rather than completion of instructional hours or participation in an instructional course or program.

"Incentive" means a payment to a comprehensive community college to reward and stimulate increased levels of noncredit workforce credential attainment for in-demand and high-demand occupations.

"Industry-recognized" means demonstrating competency or proficiency in the technical and occupational skills identified as necessary for performing functions of an occupation based on standards developed or endorsed by employers and industry organizations.

"Noncredit workforce credential" means a competency-based, industry-recognized, portable, and third-party-validated certification or occupational license.

"Portable" means recognized by multiple employers and educational institutions and, where appropriate, across geographic areas.

"Program" means the Virginia Pathway to the Middle Class: Noncredit Workforce Credentials Program.

"Student" means a comprehensive community college student who is a resident of the Commonwealth.

"System" means the Virginia Community College System.

"Third-party-validated" means having an external process in place for determining validity and relevance in the workplace and for continuous alignment of demonstrated knowledge and skills with industry workforce needs.

§ 23-220.7. Virginia Pathway to the Middle Class: Noncredit Workforce Credentials Program established; purpose.

The Virginia Pathway to the Middle Class: Noncredit Workforce Credentials Program is established within the System for the purpose of (i) creating and sustaining a demand-driven supply of credentialed workers for high-demand and in-demand occupations in the Commonwealth by addressing and closing the gap between the skills needed by the technicians, technologists, and trade-level workers in the Commonwealth and the skills of the available workforce in the Commonwealth; (ii) expanding the affordability of workforce training and credentialing; and (iii) increasing the interest of current and future

Virginia workers in technician, technologist, and trade-level positions to fill the available and emerging jobs in the Commonwealth that require less than a bachelor's degree but more than a high school diploma in order to address the Commonwealth's goal of increasing to more than 460,000 the number of workforce credentials earned by Virginians by 2030.

§ 23-220.8. Virginia Community College System; Virginia Pathway to the Middle Class: Noncredit Workforce Credentials Program.

A. The System shall administer the Program. In administering the Program, the System shall:

- 1. Approve a plan and funding formula to support capacity building for and development and expansion of noncredit workforce credentials programs at comprehensive community colleges that prepare students for in-demand noncredit workforce credentials that are aligned with the knowledge and skill sets that are required for the available occupations in each region;*
- 2. Approve a plan for providing financial incentives to comprehensive community colleges that demonstrate exceptional performance or improvement in the development and expansion of noncredit workforce credentials programs that prepare students for in-demand noncredit workforce credentials that are aligned with the knowledge and skill sets that are required for the available occupations in each region, as validated and reported by the System;*
- 3. No later than January 1 of each year, submit a report to the General Assembly and the Virginia Board of Workforce Development with data from the previous fiscal year on noncredit workforce credentials attainment by students at comprehensive community colleges that includes:*
 - a. A list of the noncredit workforce credentials offered, by name, comprehensive community college, and certification entity;*
 - b. The number of students who enrolled in noncredit workforce credentials programs at comprehensive community colleges, by comprehensive community college and in the System as a whole;*
 - c. The number of students who completed noncredit workforce credentials programs at comprehensive community colleges, by comprehensive community college and in the System as a whole;*
 - d. The number of students who attained noncredit workforce credentials after completing noncredit workforce credentials programs at comprehensive community colleges, by credential name, relevant industry sector, and comprehensive community college and in the System as a whole; and*
 - e. The average cost per noncredit workforce credential attained, by credential name, relevant industry sector, and comprehensive community college.*

Such report shall be submitted to the General Assembly as a report document as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents and reports and shall be posted on the General Assembly's website; and

4. Approve a plan and timeline for assessing the impact of a pilot set of noncredit workforce credentials on short-term and long-term job attainment and wages.

2. That the Virginia Community College System shall approve (i) a plan and funding formula to support capacity building for and development and expansion of noncredit workforce credentials programs at comprehensive community colleges pursuant to this act no later than October 31, 2016 and (ii) each other plan and timeline as required by this act no later than January 1, 2017.