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SENATE BILL NO. 583

Offered January 24, 2000

A *BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Title 30 a chapter numbered 12, consisting of sections numbered 30-90 through 30-93, relating to establishment of the Joint Commission on Workforce Development.*

Patron—Hawkins

Referred to Committee on Rules

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Title 30 a chapter numbered 12, consisting of sections numbered 30-90 through 30-93, as follows:

CHAPTER 12.**JOINT COMMISSION ON WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

§ 30-90. *Commission established; powers and duties.*

The Joint Commission on Workforce Development (the "Commission") is hereby established as a legislative agency of the Commonwealth. The Commission shall generally study all aspects of workforce development and assist in stimulating, encouraging, and promoting workforce training and development in the Commonwealth to ensure that a well-prepared and highly skilled workforce be available for Virginia's business and industry needs. Further, the Commission will determine and/or review sound public policies related thereto. In so doing, it shall encourage the development of uniform state policies, programs and services for workforce training and development and provide a forum for continuing review and study of such policies, programs, and services. In addition to its own proposals, the Commission shall evaluate the proposals and recommendations of all commissions, councils and agencies as to legislation affecting the Commonwealth's workforce training and development policies, programs and services. In addition, the Commission shall:

1. Evaluate the impact of existing statutes and proposed legislation related to workforce training and development in the Commonwealth;

2. Advise the General Assembly, Governor, and agencies, authorities and institutions of the Commonwealth upon matters related to workforce training and development;

3. Investigate, research, and consider such issues related to workforce training and development as may be requested by the General Assembly or determined by the Commission;

4. Make recommendations to the General Assembly and the Governor;

5. Consult with appropriate entities, public or private, on matters related to workforce training and development under the Commission's consideration;

6. Solicit from appropriate entities, public or private, on issues related to workforce training and development;

7. Coordinate its efforts with and assist the efforts of other agencies, authorities, councils and institutions of the Commonwealth;

8. Accept private or public funds to carry out its purposes; and

9. Annually report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly and Governor.

§ 30-91. *Membership; terms; vacancies; chairman and vice chairman; expenses.*

A. The Commission shall be composed of nine members, five of whom shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates from the membership thereof, and four of whom shall be appointed by the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections from the membership of the Senate.

B. All appointments shall be for terms of four years. Vacancies occurring other than by expiration of term shall be filled for the unexpired term. Whenever any legislative member fails to retain his membership in the house from which he was appointed, he will relinquish his membership on the Commission and the appointing authority who appointed such member shall make an appointment from his respective house to complete the term. Any member may be reappointed for successive terms. The Commission shall annually elect a chairman and a vice chairman from among its membership.

C. Commission members shall receive compensation as provided in § 30-19.12 and shall be reimbursed from funds appropriated or otherwise available to the Commission for reasonable and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

§ 30-92. *Executive director; staff; compensation.*

The Commission may appoint and employ and, at its pleasure, remove an executive director and such other persons as it deems necessary to assist it in carrying out the duties set forth in this chapter. The Commission shall determine the duties of such staff and to fix their salaries or compensation within

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60 *the amounts appropriated or received.*

61 *§ 30-93. Advisory committees.*

62 *The Commission may establish advisory committees composed of persons with expertise in the*
63 *matters under consideration by the Commission. Such persons shall serve without compensation, but*
64 *shall be entitled to be reimbursed from funds appropriated or otherwise available to the Commission for*
65 *reasonable and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.*