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**HOUSE BILL NO. 1421**

Offered January 14, 2015

Prefiled December 22, 2014

*A BILL to amend and reenact § 2.2-435.7 of the Code of Virginia, relating to duties of the Chief Workforce Development Advisor.*

Patrons—Filler-Corn and Simon

Referred to Committee on Commerce and Labor

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

**1. That § 2.2-435.7 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

**§ 2.2-435.7. Responsibilities of the Chief Workforce Development Advisor.**

A. The responsibilities of the Chief Workforce Development Advisor shall include:

1. Developing a strategic plan for the statewide delivery of workforce development and training programs and activities. The strategic plan shall be developed in coordination with the development of the comprehensive economic development policy required by § 2.2-205. The strategic plan shall include performance measures that link the objectives of such programs and activities to the record of state agencies, local workforce investment boards, and other relevant entities in attaining such objectives;

2. To the extent permissible under applicable federal law, determining the appropriate allocation of funds and other resources that have been appropriated or are otherwise available for disbursement by the Commonwealth for workforce development programs and activities;

3. Ensuring that the Commonwealth's workforce development efforts are implemented in a coordinated and efficient manner by, among other activities, taking appropriate executive action to this end and recommending to the General Assembly necessary legislative actions to streamline and eliminate duplication in such efforts;

4. Facilitating efficient implementation of workforce development and training programs by cabinet secretaries and agencies responsible for such programs;

5. Developing, in coordination with the Virginia Board of Workforce Development, (i) certification standards for programs and providers and (ii) uniform policies and procedures, including standardized forms and applications, for one-stop centers;

6. Monitoring, in coordination with the Virginia Board of Workforce Development, the effectiveness of each one-stop center and recommending actions needed to improve their effectiveness;

7. Establishing measures to evaluate the effectiveness of the local workforce investment boards and conducting annual evaluations of the effectiveness of each local workforce investment board. As part of the evaluation process, the Governor shall recommend to such boards specific best management practices;

8. Conducting annual evaluations of the performance of workforce development and training programs and activities and their administrators and providers, using the performance measures developed through the strategic planning process described in subdivision 1. The evaluations shall include, to the extent feasible, (i) a comparison of the per-person costs for each program or activity, (ii) a comparative rating of each program or activity based on its success in meeting program objectives, and (iii) an explanation of the extent to which each agency's appropriation requests incorporate the data reflected in the cost comparison described in clause (i) and the comparative rating described in clause (ii). These evaluations, including the comparative rankings, shall be considered in allocating resources for workforce development and training programs. These evaluations shall be submitted to the chairs of the House and Senate Commerce and Labor Committees and included in the biennial reports pursuant to subdivision 10;

9. Monitoring federal legislation and policy, in order to maximize the Commonwealth's effective use of and access to federal funding available for workforce development programs; ~~and~~

10. Submitting biennial reports, which shall be included in the Governor's executive budget submissions to the General Assembly, on improvements in the coordination of workforce development efforts statewide. The reports shall identify (i) program success rates in relation to performance measures established by the Virginia Board of Workforce Development, (ii) obstacles to program and resource coordination, and (iii) strategies for facilitating statewide program and resource coordination; *and*

11. *Actively promoting the Commonwealth's workforce development and training programs and activities through public and visible means. Outreach and promotion plans shall be developed in coordination with the development of the comprehensive economic development policy required by § 2.2-205. Funding from publicly funded workforce development programs may be utilized in promotion*

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HB1421

**59** *efforts, if deemed necessary.*

**60** B. The Chief Workforce Development Advisor shall report to the Governor.