

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2022 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

House Bill 4604

BY DELEGATES ELLINGTON, STATLER, SMITH,
MAZZOCCHI, LONGANACRE, HANNA, TULLY, MAYNOR, AND
HAMRICK

[Introduced February 09, 2022; referred to the
Committee on Finance]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §18B-3D-2 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating
2 to abolishing the Workforce Development Initiative Program advisory council.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 3D. WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE.

§18B-3D-2. Workforce Development Initiative Program continued; purpose; program administration; rule required.

1 (a) The Workforce Development Initiative Program is continued under the supervision of
2 the council. The purpose of the program is to administer and oversee grants to community and
3 technical colleges to implement the provisions of this article in accordance with legislative intent.

4 (b) It is the responsibility of the council to administer the state fund for community and
5 technical college and workforce development, including setting criteria for grant applications,
6 receiving applications for grants, making determinations on distribution of funds, and evaluating
7 the performance of workforce development initiatives.

8 (c) The chancellor, under the direction of the council, shall review and approve the
9 expenditure of all grant funds, including development of application criteria, the review and
10 selection of applicants for funding, and the annual review and justification of applicants for grant
11 renewal.

12 ~~(1) To aid in decision making, the chancellor appoints an advisory committee consisting~~
13 ~~of the Executive Director of the West Virginia Development Office or designee; the Assistant State~~
14 ~~Superintendent for Technical and Adult Education; the Chair of the West Virginia Council for~~
15 ~~Community and Technical College Education; the Chair of the West Virginia Workforce~~
16 ~~Investment Council; the Executive Director of Workforce West Virginia; one member representing~~
17 ~~the Herbert Henderson Minority Affairs Office, two members representing business and industry;~~
18 ~~and one member representing labor. The advisory committee shall review all applications for~~
19 ~~workforce development initiative grants and make recommendations for distributing grant funds~~
20 ~~to the council. The advisory committee also shall make recommendations on methods to share~~

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21 ~~among the community and technical colleges any curricula developed as a result of a workforce~~
22 ~~development initiative grant~~

23 ~~(2)~~(1) When determining which grant proposals will be funded, the council shall give
24 special consideration to proposals by community and technical colleges that involve businesses
25 with fewer than fifty employees.

26 ~~(3)~~(2) The council shall weigh each proposal to avoid awarding grants which will have the
27 ultimate effect of providing unfair advantage to employers new to the state who will be in direct
28 competition with established local businesses.

29 (d) The council may allocate a reasonable amount, not to exceed five percent up to a
30 maximum of \$50,000 of the funds available for grants on an annual basis, for general program
31 administration.

32 (e) Moneys appropriated or otherwise available for the Workforce Development Initiative
33 Program shall be allocated by line item to an appropriate account. Any moneys remaining in the
34 fund at the close of a fiscal year are carried forward for use in the next fiscal year.

35 (f) Nothing in this article requires a specific level of appropriation by the Legislature.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to eliminate the requirement of review by an advisory committee of Workforce Development Initiative grant applications.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.