

RESOLUTION NUMBER 16-01
RESOLUTION in Support of Consistent Transition Policies in Alaska's Postsecondary Education System

WHEREAS, the Alaska Workforce Investment Board (AWIB) is an industry-driven public organization comprised of representatives from business and industry, education, organized labor, and government; and

WHEREAS, the AWIB is a public organization that is accountable through its members and staff to the residents, the Legislature and the Governor of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the AWIB shall act as the lead state planning and coordinating entity for state programs involving employment training, vocational education, and workforce development; and

WHEREAS, Alaska has a strong, diverse network of post-secondary educational institutions including the University of Alaska, Alaska Pacific University, Ilisagvik College, AVTEC, Registered Apprenticeship, Joint Apprenticeship Training Centers, and other programs; and

WHEREAS, geographic and budgetary realities make it impractical for any single institution to meet Alaska's statewide post-secondary education and training needs; and

WHEREAS, labor market data from the Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce indicate at least 65% of Alaska jobs will need post-secondary certification by 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education has established a network of secondary and postsecondary educators, business and industry, and community agencies, who have established a goal for Alaska that 65% of the working age population will hold a degree or other industry credential by 2025, and Registered Apprenticeships are critical to achieving that goal; and

WHEREAS, the University of Alaska system values the partnerships with secondary and postsecondary institutions and are considering policies that would best facilitate these partnerships and provide seamless transitions for students moving between AVTEC, Registered Apprenticeships and other programs; and

WHEREAS, consistent transition policies would expand the pipeline of students entering the University of Alaska system and would increase the number of Alaskans with postsecondary degrees and other credentials; and

WHEREAS, consistent transition policies would open doors to college graduation for individuals who cannot afford to go to college immediately after high school, thereby expanding economic and social mobility; and

WHEREAS, the Registered Apprenticeship College Consortium is a national, reciprocal network of universities that expands the pipeline of degree seekers and strengthens the relationship among Registered Apprenticeship and postsecondary institutions;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the AWIB officially endorses establishing consistent policies that provide seamless transitions for students within the University of Alaska system and

between the university and other postsecondary institutions, including but not limited to AVTEC and Registered Apprenticeship programs, and that AWIB endorses all branches of the university system joining the Registered Apprenticeship College Consortium.

CERTIFICATION

The Alaska Workforce Investment Board held a meeting duly and regularly called, noticed, and convened this 5th day of February, 2016 and the foregoing Resolution was adopted unanimously at said meeting.

Signed this 5th day of February, 2016.



Larry Bell, Chair

Alaska Workforce Investment Board