RESOLUTION NUMBER 17-05 RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE ALASKA COMPLETION AND ACCESS NETWORK'S 65 BY 2025 GOAL

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, workforce development, and career, technical, and vocational education; and

WHEREAS, the AWIB recognizes that Alaska must have a highly skilled and educated workforce for a strong economy, stable employment rates, and healthy communities; and

WHEREAS, a majority of good jobs require post-high school training but do not necessarily require a four year college degree; and

WHEREAS, research data indicates that occupational endorsements, Registered Apprenticeships, two and four year college degrees, industry recognized licensure, and certain other post-secondary credentials significantly increase lifetime wages for individuals who earn such credentials; and

WHEREAS, multiple institutions of higher education in Alaska are expanding connections between postsecondary options such as degree programs and Registered Apprenticeships; and

WHEREAS, a wide range of stakeholders participate in the Alaska Completion and Access Network, which works to increase the percentage of Alaskans who earn post-high school degrees and certificates, and has established a goal of 65% of Alaskans earning a degree or certificate by 2025;

WHEREAS, Alaska Completion and Access Network understands how important it is for each student to explore, understand, plan, and prepare for one of the many postsecondary opportunities; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Workforce Investment Board endorses the Alaska Completion and Access Network's goal of 65 by 2025.

CERTIFICATION

The Alaska Workforce Investment Board held a meeting duly and regularly called, noticed, and convened this 25th day of October, 2017 and the foregoing Resolution was adopted unanimously at said meeting.

Signed this 25th day of October, 2017.

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Larry Bell, Chair Alaska Workforce Investment Board