

WHEREAS, Maryland has collaboratively developed a Unified Plan for Workforce Investment to be submitted in April 2000 to the appropriate federal agencies; and

WHEREAS, The federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998 represents the achievement of consensus on the need to restructure a multiplicity of workforce development programs into an integrated workforce investment system that can better respond to the employment needs of the business community in Maryland; and

WHEREAS, Maryland's current workforce demands exceed the number of qualified workers available for employment; and

WHEREAS, Collaboration among workforce partners in the State will increase the ability to prepare more qualified workers to meet future employment demands; and

WHEREAS, The federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998 specifically allows a unified plan under the requirements of Section 501(b)(1) of the Act; and

WHEREAS, Postsecondary career and technology education programs authorized by the federal Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act of 1998 are already included in the Maryland Unified Plan for Workforce Investment without requiring legislative approval, and it is the understanding of the General Assembly that the Governor has concurred with the inclusion of those programs in the Unified Plan; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That it is the intent of the General Assembly to state that it concurs with the decision to include ~~postsecondary~~ secondary career and technology education programs in the Maryland Unified Plan for Workforce Investment; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of Legislative Services to the Honorable Parris N. Glendening, Governor of Maryland; the Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; and the Honorable Casper R. Taylor, Jr., Speaker of the House of Delegates.

Signed May 18, 2000.

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