

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2019

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HOUSE BILL 664  
PROPOSED COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE H664-PCS10516-RQ-6

Short Title: myFutureNC/Postsecondary Attainment Goal.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

April 10, 2019

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH AN EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT GOAL FOR THE STATE.

3 Whereas, the State of North Carolina is one of nine states in the country that does not  
4 have a shared postsecondary attainment goal and has less than half the 25- to 44-year-old  
5 workforce with a postsecondary degree or certificate; and

6 Whereas, the myFutureNC Commission, a statewide group of business, education,  
7 and government leaders, recently studied North Carolina's evolving workforce needs and the  
8 alignment between future demands and trends in educational attainment; and

9 Whereas, based on that study, the myFutureNC Commission developed an  
10 educational attainment goal that will ensure North Carolina remains economically competitive  
11 now and into the future; and

12 Whereas, to make progress towards that goal, the North Carolina higher education  
13 community must improve student outcomes, reduce the time to graduation, and create  
14 opportunities that meet the needs of today's students; and

15 Whereas, increasing on-time graduation rates at institutions of higher education and  
16 expanding access to high-quality workforce training places more graduates into the workforce  
17 more quickly, reduces student debt, and increases the supply of skilled workers in North Carolina,  
18 making the State more attractive to businesses to start, expand, or relocate; Now, therefore,  
19 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

20 **SECTION 1.(a)** G.S. 116C-1 through G.S. 116C-5 are designated as Article 1 of  
21 Chapter 116C of the General Statutes, which is entitled "Education Cabinet."

22 **SECTION 1.(b)** Chapter 116C of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new  
23 Article to read:

24 "Article 2.

25 "North Carolina Postsecondary Attainment Goal.

26 **"§ 116C-10. North Carolina postsecondary attainment goal.**

27 (a) Findings. – The General Assembly finds it necessary to set a goal for postsecondary  
28 attainment for North Carolina residents to ensure that the State remains economically competitive  
29 now and into the future.

30 (b) Postsecondary Attainment Goal. – The State shall make significant efforts to increase  
31 access to learning and improve the education of more North Carolinians so that, by the year 2030,  
32 at least 2,000,000 residents between the ages of 25 and 44 will have completed a high-quality  
33 credential or postsecondary degree.

34 (c) Rights Not Created. – The attainment goal established in this section is not to the  
35 exclusion of any other goals and does not confer a right or create a claim for any person."



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1           **SECTION 1.(c)** Beginning September 1, 2020, and every September 1 thereafter,  
2 the myFutureNC Commission, which is a statewide commission focusing on postsecondary  
3 educational attainment in North Carolina, shall report to the General Assembly, as provided by  
4 G.S. 120-29.5, on the progress of the State reaching the postsecondary attainment goal set forth  
5 in G.S. 116C-10, as enacted by this act, and activities by the Commission to further North  
6 Carolina towards the postsecondary attainment goal.

7           **SECTION 2.(a)** There is created the Joint Legislative Task Force on Postsecondary  
8 Attainment (Task Force).

9           **SECTION 2.(b)** The Task Force shall consist of three members of the Senate  
10 appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, three members of the House of  
11 Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and three public  
12 members appointed by the Governor. These appointments shall be made no later than September  
13 1, 2019. The members of the Task Force shall elect a chair and a vice chair from among its  
14 membership.

15           **SECTION 2.(c)** In consultation with the Department of Public Instruction, the  
16 Community Colleges System Office, The University of North Carolina System Office, the North  
17 Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities, and the Department of Health and Human  
18 Services, the Task Force shall create an inventory of existing education programs and policies to  
19 assess the effectiveness of those programs and policies in order to determine how to facilitate the  
20 progress of the State in reaching the postsecondary attainment goal set forth in G.S. 116C-10. As  
21 a part of this study, the Task Force shall consider the work and recommendations of the  
22 myFutureNC Commission and the Postsecondary Education Credentials Commission and any  
23 other issues the Task Force considers relevant.

24           **SECTION 2.(d)** Either the President Pro Tempore of the Senate or the Speaker of  
25 the House of Representatives may call the first meeting of the Task Force. Subsequent meetings  
26 of the Task Force shall be upon the call of its chair. A quorum of the Task Force is a majority of  
27 its members. No action may be taken except by a majority vote at a meeting at which a quorum  
28 is present. The Task Force, while in the discharge of its official duties, may exercise all powers  
29 provided for under G.S. 120-19 and G.S. 120-19.1 through G.S. 120-19.4. The Task Force may  
30 contract for professional, clerical, or consultant services, as provided by G.S. 120-32.02. If the  
31 Task Force hires a consultant, the consultant shall not be a State employee or a person currently  
32 under contract with the State to provide services. Members of the Task Force shall receive per  
33 diem, subsistence, and travel allowance as provided in G.S. 120-3.1. The expenses of the Task  
34 Force shall be considered expenses incurred for the joint operation of the General Assembly.

35           **SECTION 2.(e)** The Legislative Services Officer shall assign professional and  
36 clerical staff to assist the Task Force in its work. The Director of Legislative Assistants of the  
37 House of Representatives and the Director of Legislative Assistants of the Senate shall assign  
38 clerical support to the Task Force.

39           **SECTION 2.(f)** Meetings of the Task Force shall begin no later than October 1,  
40 2019. The Task Force shall submit an interim report by March 1, 2020, and a final report by  
41 December 31, 2020, on the results of its study, including proposed legislation, to the Joint  
42 Legislative Education Oversight Committee. The Task Force shall terminate on December 31,  
43 2020, or upon the filing of its final report, whichever comes first.

44           **SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law.