

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2023

H.B. 1031  
May 2, 2024  
HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH40581-MTa-189

Short Title: Reduce Barriers to College Completion.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representative Cervania.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO PROVIDE IN-STATE TUITION FOR CERTAIN CHILDREN OF LAWFULLY  
3 ADMITTED OR LAWFULLY PRESENT NONCITIZENS.

4 Whereas, it is projected that by 2030, sixty-seven percent (67%) of jobs will require  
5 a postsecondary degree or credential, underscoring the importance of the educational attainment  
6 goal in North Carolina to have two million North Carolinians between the ages of 25 and 44 with  
7 a postsecondary degree or credential by 2030; and

8 Whereas, on its current trajectory, North Carolina will fall short by at least 71,000  
9 individuals to meet our projected workforce needs; and

10 Whereas, over eighty percent (80%) of employers in the State reported difficulty  
11 finding employees for jobs requiring industry-valued credentials; and

12 Whereas, jobs requiring industry-valued credentials are expected to increase by more  
13 than eleven percent (11%) in the next six years; and

14 Whereas, children of H-1B visa holders who are lawfully admitted or lawfully present  
15 and documented residents receive in-State tuition until they are 21 years old and are not yet  
16 finished with their four-year degrees; and

17 Whereas, immigrant households contribute hundreds of billions of dollars in federal,  
18 State, and local taxes that fund our public universities; and

19 Whereas, North Carolina must increase the number of postsecondary-,  
20 public-university-educated individuals so the State can have more potential employees entering  
21 the workforce with industry-valued credentials; Now, therefore,

22 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

23 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 116-143.1 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

24 "(i1) A person who was lawfully admitted to this State or is lawfully present in this State  
25 and meets the following requirements is eligible to be charged the in-State tuition rate:

26 (1) Has a parent or legal guardian who meets all of the following criteria:

27 a. Was lawfully admitted to the United States or is lawfully present in  
28 the United States.

29 b. Is not a citizen of the United States.

30 c. Holds a valid H-1B visa or L-1 visa.

31 (2) Meets all of the following criteria:

32 a. Either of the following:

33 1. Holds a valid H4 visa.

34 2. All of the following:



