

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to direct the Director of the Department of Energy to identify and develop training resources to*
3 *advance workforce development in the offshore wind industry.*

4 [H 1616]

5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

7 **1. § 1.** *That the Director of the Department of Energy (the Director) shall identify and develop training*
8 *resources to advance the offshore wind industry in the Commonwealth, including the development of*
9 *offshore wind careers and training curriculum, such as pre-hire soft skills training and technical skills*
10 *training, for manufacturing trades, providers of offshore wind products and services, maritime workers, and*
11 *other skilled trades. As part of such curriculum, the Director shall assess the availability of offshore wind*
12 *developers, original equipment manufacturers, and supply chain firms that operate within the*
13 *Commonwealth and, following such assessment, consider establishing a Global Wind Organisation training*
14 *program to meet minimum safety requirements including training on fire awareness, first aid, sea survival,*
15 *working at height, and manual hauling for offshore wind industry workers. Training opportunities for*
16 *veterans, local workers, and workers from historically economically disadvantaged communities, as defined*
17 *in § 56-576 of the Code of Virginia, shall be prioritized. In developing such training resources, the Director*
18 *shall consult with public and private institutions of higher education in the Commonwealth, vocational-*
19 *technical institutions, apprenticeship programs, and at least one historically black college or university, as*
20 *defined in § 2.2-1604 of the Code of Virginia. Funding for developing such resources may include existing*
21 *sources of local, state, or federal funding and grant resources for the purposes of identifying and developing*
22 *skills required to support workforce development in the offshore wind industry and expand the offshore wind*
23 *industry in the Commonwealth. Any training programs developed pursuant to this act shall be developed in*
24 *coordination with the Transmission Siting and Economic Development Program as awarded to the*
25 *Department of Energy, including awards granted to the Hampton Roads Workforce Council.*

ENROLLED

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