

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA Department of Education

April 18, 2014

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Patricia I. Wright, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: House Joint Resolution 688 - Workforce Development Study

House Joint Resolution 688 (HJR 688), patroned by Delegate Kathy J. Byron, was passed by the General Assembly in 2013. HJR 688 directs the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) to update its 2003 report on the Commonwealth's implementation of the Workforce Investment Act. Additionally, through budget language introduced in the 2014 General Assembly session, JLARC has been asked to evaluate the success of Virginia's work force training and education programs in ensuring that individuals possess the necessary skills and credentials to meet the work force needs of the state's employers.

JLARC staff recently met with Department of Education staff to discuss this study and to obtain suggestions for gathering information about Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs and other statewide K-12 programs and policies that are designed to prepare Virginians for the work force. The purpose of this memorandum is to inform you that JLARC staff may be contacting superintendents and other division-level staff in the coming months to gather information related to the study. Examples of the research activities JLARC staff may conduct include a survey of school division CTE administrators and interviews with superintendents and CTE administrators. JLARC staff have also indicated that they would like to visit several CTE programs across the state.

Should JLARC contact your division regarding this study, I ask that you please cooperate with them by providing the time, assistance, and information requested. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact the Policy Office at (804) 225-2092, or by e-mail at policy@doe.virginia.gov.

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