

Board of Supervisors
County of Prince George, Virginia

Resolution

At a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Prince George held in the Boardroom, Third Floor, County Administration Building, 6602 Courts Drive, Prince George, Virginia, this 13th day of December, 2022:

Present:

Marlene J. Waymack, Chair
Donald R. Hunter, Vice-Chair
Floyd M. Brown, Jr.
Alan R. Carmichael
T. J. Webb

Vote:

A-1

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR RICHARD BLAND COLLEGE
TRANSITION TO AN INDEPENDENT GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

WHEREAS, Richard Bland College was established in 1960 as one of five separate institutions, each overseen by an entity then known as the Board of Visitors of the Colleges of William and Mary; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly subsequently granted three of those institutions independent governing boards, and those institutions exist today as Old Dominion University, Virginia Commonwealth University, and Christopher Newport University; and

WHEREAS, Richard Bland College has responded to General Assembly directives in place since 2014 to model collaborative, innovative approaches to education that would yield improved attainment of higher education—and attendant credentials—for Virginia citizens and robust economic development for the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the 2022 General Assembly directed Richard Bland College to present a report by November 1, 2022, on "steps necessary to transition to an innovative model for higher education that prepares citizens for jobs in high-demand fields and industries critical to the economic development of the Petersburg area, Virginia Gateway Region and Commonwealth of Virginia"; and

WHEREAS, on November 1, 2022, a report entitled Richard Bland College: A Model for Higher Education Innovation was submitted to the House and Senate Education and Finance Committees of the General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, the report submitted on November 1, 2022, defines Richard Bland College as an innovative, hybrid model for higher education in Virginia and posits that, as such, the College requires a dedicated, independent Board of Visitors; and

WHEREAS, the Board of the College of William & Mary in Virginia expressed its unanimous support for Richard Bland College's proposed governance transition in a resolution dated November 17, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the College intends to pursue legislation during the 2023 General Assembly session that would grant Richard Bland College a dedicated governing board without elevating its degree status;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Prince George County Board of Supervisors supports Richard Bland College's proposed transition to a dedicated, independent governance structure..

A Copy Teste:

Jeffrey D. Stoke
County Administrator