

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2021

H.B. 628  
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HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH40380-MKa-159

Short Title: Edgcombe CC/Funds for Training Center. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative Willingham.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR EDGECOMBE COMMUNITY COLLEGE TO  
3 SUPPORT A NEW TRAINING AND RECRUITMENT CENTER.

4 Whereas, Edgcombe Community College (ECC) is constructing a new Training and  
5 Recruitment Center (Center) to provide training facilities and to support industry growth for a  
6 sustainable pipeline of candidates to enter into existing and new jobs within the advanced  
7 manufacturing sector; and

8 Whereas, the Center will support ECC's industry partners, including Triangle Tire,  
9 Corning, and Carolina Connector, through the Carolinas Gateway Partnership, a public-private  
10 industrial recruitment agency dedicated to the economic development of the Eastern North  
11 Carolina counties of Nash and Edgcombe; and

12 Whereas, 2,650 new jobs have been added to the Twin Counties Region of Nash and  
13 Edgcombe Counties, with approximately 2,500 jobs currently open and an estimate of 3,450  
14 jobs that will need to be filled and on the market in the next 18 to 24 months; and

15 Whereas, the Center shall be a 32,000 square foot facility that will provide as part of  
16 its mission at least the following:

- 17 (1) An employment office for jobs recruiting.
- 18 (2) A major meeting facility.
- 19 (3) A recruiting tool for the remaining 1,600 acres at the Kingsboro Mega Site.
- 20 (4) Unique training, recruiting, and meeting opportunities; and

21 Whereas, the Center will support workforce development growth in the Raising  
22 Awareness of Manufacturing Possibilities (RAMP) East Service workforce development region  
23 by providing services at the Center to Edgcombe County and nine other surrounding counties,  
24 including Alexander, Washington, Northampton, Hertford, Camden, Currituck, Chowan,  
25 Perquimans, and Pasquotank Counties, and Edgcombe Community College and eight other  
26 community colleges, including College of the Albemarle, Nash Community College, Wilson  
27 Community College, Halifax Community College, Martin Community College, Pitt Community  
28 College, Roanoke-Chowan Community College, and Beaufort County Community College; and

29 Whereas, Edgcombe County contributed 14 acres of land owned by the county; and

30 Whereas, Edgcombe County received a Golden L.E.A.F. Foundation Grant of \$10  
31 million for the construction of the Center; and

32 Whereas, State funds are necessary for the project to obtain the equipment needed for  
33 the operation of the Center; Now, therefore,

34 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

35 **SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Community  
36 Colleges System Office the sum of two million five hundred thousand dollars (\$2,500,000) in



1 nonrecurring funds for the 2021-2022 fiscal year to be allocated to Edgecombe Community  
2 College to provide for equipment for training and meeting room audiovisual activities to  
3 complete construction of a new Training and Recruitment Center.  
4           **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2021.