

## STATE OF DELAWARE STATE COUNCIL FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Margaret M. O'Neill Bldg., Suite 1 Dover, Delaware 19901 302-739-3621

The Honorable John Carney
Governor

John A. McNeal Director

## **MEMORANDUM**

DATE:

May 30, 2019

TO:

All Members of the Delaware State Senate

and House of Representatives

FROM:

Mr. J. Todd Webb, Chairperson

State Council for Persons with Disabilities

RE:

S.B. 65 (Creation of the Focus on Alternative Skills Training Program)

The State Council for Persons with Disabilities (SCPD) has reviewed S.B. 65 which establishes the Focus on Alternative Skills Training Program (FAST). FAST will provide tuition, up to \$9,000, to Delaware residents who have obtained a high school diploma, Diploma of Alternate Achievement Standards, or a Delaware Secondary credential, and have enrolled in an approved non-degree credit certificate program that provides industry-accepted skill training and certification no later than 18 months after graduating high school. FAST will improve access to alternative skills training programs and provides additional post-secondary opportunities for Delaware students.

SCPD endorses the proposed legislation, but would like you to consider ways that would make the program available to more individuals, including removing the requirement that eligible individuals must have enrolled in an approved program no later than 18 months following their graduation from high school.

Thank you for your consideration and please contact SCPD if you have any questions regarding our position or observations on the proposed legislation.

cc:

Ms. Laura Waterland, Esq.

Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens

Developmental Disabilities Council

P&L/SB 65 creation of the focus on alternative skills training program 5-28-19