

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2025**

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HOUSE BILL 1100

Short Title: Construction Support Act. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative Reives.

For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.

Referred to: Appropriations, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

April 30, 2026

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE CONSTRUCTION
2 WORKFORCE PROGRAM AND TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THAT PURPOSE,
3 TO CREATE THE CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS PRODUCER INCENTIVE GRANT
4 PROGRAM AND TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THAT PURPOSE, TO REQUIRE
5 THE BUILDING CODE COUNCIL AND THE RESIDENTIAL CODE COUNCIL TO
6 UPDATE THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE BUILDING CODE TO ALLOW
7 PORTLAND-LIMESTONE CEMENT AND NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED CEMENT
8 SUBSTITUTES, AND TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF
9 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY TO PROVIDE GRANTS TO LOCAL
10 GOVERNMENTS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF E-PERMITTING SYSTEMS.

11 Whereas, the General Assembly finds that rises in housing costs stem primarily from
12 bottlenecks in labor and materials; and

13 Whereas, the most effective way to reduce housing costs in North Carolina is to
14 reduce these bottlenecks; and

15 Whereas, investments in construction training, material production, and permitting
16 modernization will strengthen North Carolina's economy, enhance housing affordability, and
17 promote regional equity in growth; Now, therefore,
18 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

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21 **PART I. COMMUNITY COLLEGE CONSTRUCTION WORKFORCE PROGRAM**

22 **SECTION 1.(a)** Program Established. – There is established the Community College
23 Construction Workforce Program (Program). The purpose of the Program is to provide funds to
24 community colleges in the State to establish credentialing programs for high-demand
25 construction trades. For the purposes of this section, "high-demand construction trades" include
26 electricians, plumbers, carpenters, roofers, HVAC (heating, ventilation, and air conditioning)
27 technicians, or other similar trades with skills applicable to and used in the construction of
28 residential structures.

29 **SECTION 1.(b)** Program Funds. – The Community Colleges System Office shall
30 provide funds to community colleges seeking to establish credentialing programs for
31 high-demand construction trades. In order to receive funds, a community college must submit a
32 written request to the Community Colleges System Office detailing the credentialing programs
33 to be established with the funds and how the funds will be used to establish the credentialing
34 program. The Community Colleges System Office shall notify the requesting community college
35 of the approval or denial of the request within 30 days of receipt of the written request.



1 **SECTION 1.(c)** Community College Reporting Requirement. – Each community
2 college that receives funds shall submit a report to the Community Colleges System Office by
3 June 30 of each year that funds are received detailing the following:

- 4 (1) How funds distributed through the Program were used to establish
5 high-demand construction trades credentialing programs at the community
6 college, including which high-demand construction trades credentialing
7 programs were established.
- 8 (2) The number of students achieving credentials for high-demand construction
9 trades during the most recent academic year compared to the prior academic
10 year.
- 11 (3) Which specific credential programs were established using Program funds.
- 12 (4) Any further plans by the community college to establish other high-demand
13 construction trades.

14 **SECTION 1.(d)** Community Colleges System Office Reporting Requirement. – The
15 Community Colleges System Office shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight
16 Committee on the results of the Program by October 1, 2027, and each year thereafter that funds
17 are available for the Program on the following:

- 18 (1) The number of community colleges that applied for funds, the number of
19 community colleges that received funds, and the amount of funds received by
20 each community college.
- 21 (2) The number of high-demand construction trades credentialing programs that
22 were established, broken down by specific trade credentials.
- 23 (3) The total number of high-demand construction trades credentials awarded by
24 colleges in the Community Colleges System compared to previous years.
- 25 (4) Any other information the Community Colleges System Office deems
26 relevant.

27 **SECTION 1.(e)** Appropriation. – There is appropriated from the General Fund to
28 the Community Colleges System Office the sum of two hundred million dollars (\$200,000,000)
29 in nonrecurring funds for the 2026-2027 fiscal year to be used for the purposes of this section.
30 The Community Colleges System Office may use up to ten percent (10%) of the funds
31 appropriated pursuant to this section to administer the Program and promote the Program to the
32 public. Funds appropriated pursuant to this section shall not revert but shall remain available
33 until expended.

34 35 **PART II. CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS PRODUCER INCENTIVE GRANT** 36 **PROGRAM**

37 **SECTION 2.(a)** Appropriation. – There is appropriated from the General Fund to
38 the Department of Commerce (Department) the nonrecurring sum of one hundred million dollars
39 (\$100,000,000) for the 2026-2027 fiscal year to be allocated to, and used for purposes consistent
40 with, the Construction Materials Producer Incentive Grant Program created by subsection (b) of
41 this section.

42 **SECTION 2.(b)** Construction Materials Producer Incentive Grant Program. – The
43 Department shall administer a grant program using funds allocated in subsection (a) of this
44 section to provide grants to producers of construction materials to incentivize investment in
45 production capacity for construction materials. For purposes of this section, "construction
46 materials" include lumber, engineered wood, concrete, cement substitutes, HVAC (heating,
47 ventilation, and air conditioning) components, windows, doors, and any other material,
48 component, or system assembly that is a standard item used in the construction of buildings or
49 infrastructure. Grants under the program shall be subject to the following conditions, which shall
50 be in addition to any conditions imposed by rules created by the Department pursuant to
51 subsection (c) of this section:

- 1 (1) The maximum award amount under the program, per producer of construction
2 materials, shall not exceed five million dollars (\$5,000,000).
3 (2) Grants from the program shall only be awarded to producers of construction
4 materials that (i) invest a minimum of ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) in the
5 State and (ii) create an average of 250 FTE jobs during the "grant period." For
6 purposes of this subdivision, a "grant period" is a period of time, not to exceed
7 five years, during which producers of construction materials are eligible to
8 receive grants under the program.

9 **SECTION 2.(c) Rules; Report.** – The Department shall adopt rules to implement the
10 grant program created by this section. Beginning September 15, 2026, and continuing annually
11 thereafter until all funds have been awarded, the Department shall submit a report on the grant
12 program to the Joint Legislative Economic Development and Global Engagement Oversight
13 Committee and the Fiscal Research Division.

14 **SECTION 2.(d) Effective Date.** – This section becomes effective July 1, 2026.
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16 **PART III. CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS REGULATIONS**

17 **SECTION 3.(a) Definitions.** – For purposes of this section, the following definitions
18 apply:

- 19 (1) Nationally recognized cement substitute. – A cementitious material used as a
20 partial replacement for portland cement that conforms to a standard
21 promulgated by ASTM International, the American Association of State
22 Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), or another nationally
23 recognized consensus standards organization.
24 (2) Portland-limestone cement. – Portland-limestone cement conforming to
25 ASTM C595/C595M, Type IL.

26 **SECTION 3.(b) Code Amendments Required.** – To implement this section, the
27 following shall apply:

- 28 (1) The Building Code Council shall, in accordance with G.S. 143-138(a) and
29 G.S. 143-138(d), amend those parts of the North Carolina State Building Code
30 volumes specified in subdivisions (1) through (9) of G.S. 143-138(a) that
31 apply to commercial and multifamily construction to explicitly allow the use
32 of portland-limestone cement and nationally recognized cement substitutes,
33 as defined in subsection (a) of this section, in construction regulated by those
34 parts of the Code.
35 (2) The Residential Code Council shall, in accordance with G.S. 143-138(a) and
36 G.S. 143-138(d), amend those parts of the North Carolina State Building Code
37 volumes specified in subdivisions (1) through (10) of G.S. 143-138(a) that
38 apply to residential construction to explicitly allow the use of
39 portland-limestone cement and nationally recognized cement substitutes, as
40 defined in subsection (a) of this section, in construction regulated by those
41 parts of the Code.

42 **SECTION 3.(c) Effective Date.** – This section is effective when it becomes law.
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44 **PART IV. E-PERMITTING GRANT FUNDS**

45 **SECTION 4.(a) Appropriation.** – There is appropriated from the General Fund to
46 the Department of Information Technology the sum of twenty million dollars (\$20,000,000) in
47 nonrecurring funds for the 2026-2027 fiscal year to be provided in the form of grants to local
48 governments in this State for the purpose of establishing e-permitting systems.

49 **SECTION 4.(b) Effective Date.** – This section becomes effective July 1, 2026.
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51 **PART V. EFFECTIVE DATE**

1 **SECTION 5.** Effective Date. – Except as otherwise provided, this act is effective
2 when it becomes law.