

For Immediate Release: Wednesday, January 23, 2019 Contact: Steve Roberts (304) 342-1115

## W.Va. Chamber Applauds Senate Passage of "Last-Dollar-In" Community and Technical College Education Bill

**Charleston, W.Va.** – The West Virginia Chamber of Commerce applauds the passage of a comprehensive bill to make community and technical college education more affordable for hardworking West Virginians. SB 1, which provides "last-dollar-in" funding for those who are seeking community or technical education passed the Senate on a 34-0 vote today.

West Virginia Chamber President Steve Roberts stated, "This is a fantastic bill that will help boost the lives of so many hard-working West Virginians. I commend the entire West Virginia Senate and the strong bi-partisan support this bill received today."

West Virginia currently has the lowest labor force participation rate in the nation and ranks near the bottom among states in education attainment. Roberts continued, "This will help make a significant improvement in West Virginia's labor force participation rate by making community and technical education attainable for so many of our fellow West Virginians."

SB 1 now moves to the West Virginia House of Delegates for further consideration. Roberts concluded, "We encourage the House to immediately move this bill forward. The unanimous and bi-partisan support it received today in the Senate demonstrates that this is a fantastic idea that has broad support."

Members of the West Virginia Chamber of Commerce are your small business neighbors. Chamber members employ over half of our state's workforce and are found in every county and region of our state.

###