



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**myFutureNC Announces New Board Member**

**RALEIGH, NC [May 20, 2021]** -- myFutureNC is pleased to announce **NC Secretary of Commerce [Machelle Baker Sanders](#)** as the newest member of the myFutureNC [Board of Directors](#).

[myFutureNC](#) is a nonprofit organization working to close the talent gap for employers, and to create a stronger, more competitive North Carolina by empowering individuals, strengthening communities, and ensuring its economic viability in a global economy. myFutureNC continues its mission of championing the State goal to have 2 million North Carolinians ages 25-44 to hold a high-quality credential or postsecondary degree by the year 2030.

myFutureNC is the only state level organization focused on the entire early education to workforce continuum. The appointment of Sanders highlights the important cross-sector collaboration between North Carolina leaders in education, business, and government to achieve the educational attainment goal.

“Machelle will make a terrific board member, as she is keenly aware of the connection of commerce and education,” said Dale Jenkins, Board Chair of myFutureNC Board of Directors. “She understands the importance of having a trained workforce and I am excited about the role she will play on our board.”

“I’m thrilled to be a part of this important work,” said Secretary of Commerce Machelle Baker Sanders. “Our greatest asset for commerce and economic growth is our diverse and highly skilled talent pipeline of future workers, educated and trained in North Carolina. Helping connect all students to postsecondary opportunities will make us stronger together, and better align our education programs with the areas of greatest need in our business community.”

“The addition of Secretary Sanders brings an important perspective to our already talented and influential board,” said Cecilia Holden, President and CEO of myFutureNC. “As we emerge from the challenges created by the pandemic, educational attainment is the short-term recovery strategy and the long-term resiliency plan for our State’s economy. With recent announcements of several large companies expanding in our state, North Carolinians can expect new and varied job opportunities. Together we will work to ensure that students of all ages in our state are well educated and trained for these opportunities, both now and into the future.”



### **About myFutureNC**

myFutureNC is a statewide nonprofit organization focused on educational attainment, which is led by some of North Carolina's most influential education, business, and civic leaders. The organization was formed with the goal to create a stronger, more competitive North Carolina. myFutureNC is working across sectors and in communities throughout the state to close gaps in the education pathway, to promote alignment between educational programming and business/industry needs, and to ultimately improve educational opportunities for all North Carolinians. Join our efforts, stay in touch and help champion success for our state and all of its people. Visit [www.myfuturenc.org](http://www.myfuturenc.org)