

HB 1780 -- COMPREHENSIVE LEARNING PORTAL

SPONSOR: Swan

This bill, in its main provisions:

- (1) Allows public high schools that offer postsecondary course options to their students to include virtual courses;
- (2) Requires, beginning with school year 2015-2016, public high schools that provide dual enrollment to give preference to a provider that lists the offered course on the transfer bank established under Section 173.005;
- (3) Defines the terms "comprehensive learning portal," "performance-based learning" and "supplemental program";
- (4) Requires the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to develop a plan to communicate options for earning credit, no later than August 1, 2015, which must include a list of high schools whose policies permit early high school graduation. The department is also required to complete development of a statewide standard transcript that accommodates performance-based learning by August 1, 2016;
- (5) Requires the development of a personal plan of study for students, beginning with seventh grade, to include graduation requirements, career or post-secondary goals, related course work and opportunities, which might be offered outside the student's school, career-related experiences, and assessments relevant to developing the plan;
- (6) Creates the performance-based learning council, composed of 12 members, in addition to its ex-officio members the commissioners of Education and Higher Education and the Director of the Department of Economic Development in consultation with the Director of the Workforce Development Division. Members will serve four-year terms. The council must meet at least twice each year and must provide an annual report on its progress and an annual public hearing to receive comments. The council's duties include developing a recommendation for a state-coordinated policy for meeting student needs that addresses all levels of learning; identifying obstacles to providing services across institutional or jurisdictional boundaries; recommending solutions for problems at specified critical transition points and for the alignment of exit and entry levels and sectors; and developing recommendations for funding to be delivered no later than October 1, 2015;
- (7) Requires, beginning with school year 2015-16, each public high

school with a combined remediation rate of 35% or more to implement a process to use its assessment results for proficiency in reading, writing, and mathematics in conjunction with a post-secondary institution during the high school course. Beginning with school year 2016-17, community colleges must accept a statewide assessment rating of proficient or above as a passing score on a placement test, unless the community college has adopted its own placement test;

(8) Requires, by school year 2015-16, the performance-based learning coordinating council to certify multidistrict comprehensive performance-based learning programs, based on elements specified in the bill; to post school grade or improvement ratings of each approved provider; and to develop an evaluation method for providers of part-time programs. Any savings must be expended on instructional improvement or tools for electronic and digital instructional methods; and

(9) Repeals the 25-person limit on the staff of the Coordinating Board.