

SCS SBs 620 & 582 -- CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS

SPONSOR: Romine (Swan)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Emerging Issues in Education by a vote of 10 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Select Committee on Education by a vote of 9 to 0.

This bill requires the State Board of Education and Career and Technical Education Advisory Council to establish minimum requirement for a career and technical education certificate (CTE) that a student can earn in addition to their high school diploma. Students entering high school in the 2017-18 school year and thereafter will be eligible for a CTE certificate.

Each local school district shall determine the curriculum, programs of study, and course offerings based on the needs and interests of the students in the district, and no later than January 1, 2017, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education shall develop a process for recognition of a school district's CTE certificate program.

This bill also modifies the composition of the Career and Technical Education Advisory Council. Instead of the Governor appointing the Advisory Council's current eleven members, the Commissioner of Education will make these appointments. This bill also expands the Advisory Council's membership to include two senators, one from each party, appointed by the President Pro Tem of the Senate, and two representatives, one from each party, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The four legislative members will serve on the Advisory Council until they resign, are no longer members of the General Assembly, or are replaced by new appointments.

This bill is substantially similar to HCS SB 13 (2015).

PROPONENTS: Supporters say this bill could help to address current workforce issues.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Romine; Missouri Association For Career And Technical Education; Missouri National Education Association; AFT St. Louis Local 420; Missouri State Teachers Association; Missouri Education Reform Council; and Microsoft Corporation.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.