This bill requires the State Board of Education and Career and Technical Education Advisory Council to establish minimum requirements 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.

Currently, the Career and Technical Education Advisory Council is comprised of 11 specified members appointed by the Governor. This bill changes the composition of the council by having the current 11 positions appointed by the Commissioner of Education and expands the Advisory Council's membership to 15 by including two senators, appointed by the President Pro Tem, and two representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The four legislative members will serve on the council until they resign, are no longer members of the General Assembly, or are replaced by new appointments.