SPONSOR: Swan

This bill creates the Career and Technical Education Certification (CTEC) Program.

The State Board of Education must establish a procedure by which a student may receive credit toward graduation for completing a CTEC offering. The offerings include at least the following: industry certification, a state-issued professional license, an occupational competency assessment, or a CTEC exam, as described in the bill. The Career and Technical Education Advisory Council must annually approve and publish a list of such CTEC offerings. During the approval process the Council will ensure the curriculum and programs of study developed by local districts for the career and technical education certificate are compatible with the CTEC offerings. The Council will also develop an application form that may be used by the business and industry communities, local school districts, or institutions of higher education to include new CTEC offerings.

This bill also modifies the composition of the Career and Technical Education Advisory Council by adding the director of the Department of Economic Development, or his or her designee.

This bill also requires the Council to encourage local employers to participate in college and career fairs hosted by local school districts, and to cooperate with local school districts to ensure the curriculum for the career and technical education certificate includes programs of study and course offerings that will lead to industry-recognized certificates or credentials.

This bill is similar to HB 253 (2017).