

HCS HB 733 -- WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT (Patterson)

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: Standing Committee on Workforce Development

This bill relates to workforce development in education.

ADULT HIGH SCHOOLS (Section 160.2705, RSMo)

Currently, an adult high school includes on-site child care for the children of students, this bill removes the on-site requirement and specifies that an adult high school is considered a "secondary school system" in regards to providing child care. The bill also adds that a student connected online to a live class is considered in-person instruction for an adult high school student.

SCHOOL INNOVATION (Section 161.214)

This bill provides a definition for a "school innovation team" and for a "school innovation waiver" and allows school innovation teams to submit a plan to the State Board of Education (SBE) for a state innovation waiver for a variety of purposes as outlined in the bill. Plans submitted to the SBE must include the provision of law for which the waiver is being requested, as well as demonstrate the necessity of the waiver, provide measurable performance targets and goals, and demonstrate support for the plan, along with additional requirements as provided in the bill. The bill provides the SBE specific criteria for the evaluation of submitted plans and permits the SBE to make modifications to the plan with the cooperation of the school innovation team. School innovation waivers are only effective for three years beginning the school year following the approval and may be renewed. Only one waiver may be in effect per school at a time, and specific restrictions to statutory requirements relating to school start date, teacher certification, teacher tenure, or any requirement imposed by federal law, are applicable.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (Section 170.029)

This bill also requires the State Board of Education, in consultation with the Career and Technical Advisory Council, to develop a statewide plan establishing the minimum requirements for a Career and Technical Education (CTE) Certificate. The statewide plan will match workforce needs with appropriate educational resources. Each local school district shall determine the curriculum, programs of study, and course offerings based on the requirements of the statewide plan. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education is required to convene work groups on an as needed basis from each CTE program area to develop written model curriculum frameworks that may be used by districts.

WORKFORCE DIPLOMA PROGRAM (Section 178.831)

This bill establishes the "Workforce Diploma Program".

Before August 16, 2022, and annually thereafter, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) must submit a request for interested program providers for the program. An approved program provider must meet a list of qualifications, including but not limited to being an accredited high school diploma-granting entity and having a minimum of two years experience providing adult dropout recovery services.

Every year, DESE must announce the approved programs before October 16th. The approved program providers shall begin enrolling students starting before November 15th of each year. DESE shall pay, upon appropriation, the approved program providers for the specified milestones provided to each student: \$250 for the completion of each half unit of high school credit, \$250 for attaining an employability skills certification, \$250 for attaining an industry-recognized credential requiring no more than 50 hours of training, \$500 for attaining an industry-recognized credential requiring at least 51 but no more than 100 hours of training, \$750 for attaining an industry-recognized credential requiring more than 100 hours of training, and \$1,000 for attaining an accredited high school diploma.

No approved program provider shall receive funding if that provider receives federal or state funding or private tuition for the student. DESE must provide a written update to approved program providers by the last calendar day of each month. Providers may not charge any type of student fees or tuition unless a student is earning hours in addition to the maximum limit covered by state expenditures.

Before July 16th of each year, each provider must report certain metrics, specified in this section, to DESE. The bill requires each approved provider to conduct a survey of each individual who graduated from the approved program and submit the results to DESE before September 16th of each year beginning the year after the individual graduates and the next four consecutive years.

The survey must include the individual's employment status, hourly wages, access to employer-sponsored health care, and any postsecondary enrollment the individual has completed including a postsecondary certificate or degree program.

Upon the end of the second fiscal year of the program, DESE must review the metrics for each program provider and determine whether

each provider is meeting the minimum performance standards. If a program provider does not meet the minimum standards for two consecutive years, that provider will be removed from the approved provider list.

This bill also creates a "Workforce Diploma Program Fund".

This bill is similar to HCS HB 2038 (2020).