

HB 1272 -- CAREER READINESS

SPONSOR: Bangert

Before January 1, 2024 the State Board of Education (SBE) shall convene a work group to develop a written curriculum framework for the "Career Readiness" course that may be offered by school districts and charter schools beginning in 2026-27 for every junior high school or charter school giving instruction in the 8th grade.

The bill outlines the purpose of the course and details aspects of the curriculum framework including but not limited to: explaining the differences between types of colleges, describing technical degrees offered by colleges, advising students of any advanced placement courses that they may take at the school, describing the availability of virtual courses, and providing opportunities to take an ACT assessment and a basic math and writing test to assess current skill levels.

The course must meet for 3,915 minutes and focus on career readiness and emphasize the importance of work ethic, communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and creativity. The course shall demonstrate that graduation from a four-year college is not the only pathway to success.

The course shall describe at least 16 pathways to success in detail and include guest visitors who represent each pathway described.

The bill repeals Section 167.910 RSMo relating to the "Career Readiness Course Task Force".

This bill is similar to HB 112 (2021).