

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2013

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SENATE DRS85001-TLz-1B\* (10/23)

Short Title: Increase Access To Career/Technical Ed. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Tillman, Brown, and Soucek (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO DIRECT THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO DEVELOP CAREER AND COLLEGE ENDORSEMENTS FOR HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMAS, INCREASE ACCESS TO CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION TEACHERS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS, AND TO WORK WITH THE STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS ENROLLING IN CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN HIGH NEED EMPLOYMENT AREAS, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH COMMISSION STUDY COMMITTEE ON CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.(a)** G.S. 115C-12 is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

"(40) To Establish High School Diploma Endorsements. – The State Board of Education shall establish, implement, and determine the impact of adding (i) college, (ii) career, and (iii) college and career endorsements to high school diplomas to encourage students to obtain requisite job skills and to reduce the need for remedial education in institutions of higher education. These endorsements shall reflect courses completed, grades accomplished in each course, and other criteria as developed by the State Board of Education. The State Board of Education shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee on the impact of awarding these endorsements on high school graduation, college acceptance and remediation, and post-high school employment rates by September 1, 2016, and annually thereafter."

**SECTION 1.(b)** The State Board of Education shall make high school diploma endorsements, as provided under this section, available to students graduating high school beginning with the 2014-2015 school year. The State Board of Education shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee on the progress toward establishing specific college and career endorsements for high school diplomas and for awarding these endorsements by February 1, 2014.

**SECTION 2.(a)** G.S. 115C-296.7(d) reads as rewritten:

"(d) The State Board of Education shall identify local school administrative units with unmet recruitment ~~needs~~ needs, especially for career and technical education teachers, and high needs schools and shall coordinate placement of NC Teacher Corps members in those schools."

**SECTION 2.(b)** The State Board of Education shall (i) revise post-secondary education and evaluation requirements for teacher licensure of career and technical education teachers to increase accessibility to the licensure process while maintaining quality of



1 instruction and (ii) develop alternative professional development, mentoring, and curricular  
2 models to support career and technical education teachers who may not have an extensive  
3 teaching or classroom management background.

4 **SECTION 2.(c)** The State Board of Education shall report to the Joint Legislative  
5 Education Oversight Committee by January 15, 2014, on progress made in increasing  
6 accessibility to the licensure process and in developing alternative professional development  
7 supports for career and technical education teachers who may not have an extensive teaching or  
8 classroom management background.

9 **SECTION 3.(a)** The State Board of Education, in collaboration with the State  
10 Board of Community Colleges, shall develop strategies to (i) increase the number of high  
11 school students engaging in career and technical education, especially in the areas of  
12 engineering and industrial technologies, and (ii) enroll additional high school students,  
13 including freshmen and sophomores, in coursework leading to skills in occupations with high  
14 numbers of employment opportunities. In developing these strategies, the Boards shall consider  
15 sharing of instructors, facilities, equipment, and business internship opportunities between the  
16 public schools and community colleges to facilitate these goals.

17 **SECTION 3.(b)** The State Board of Education and the State Board of Community  
18 Colleges shall jointly report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by  
19 October 1, 2014, on progress made on developing strategies to increase student engagement in  
20 career and technical education, especially in engineering and industrial technologies, and on  
21 enrolling high school students, including freshman and sophomores, in coursework preparing  
22 them for occupations with high numbers of employment opportunities.

23 **SECTION 4.** This act is effective when it becomes law.