

Committee on Education Pre-K -12

SB 1688 — Career-themed Courses

by Senators Osgood, Yarborough, Hutson, Simon, Book, Garcia, and Davis

The bill adds requirements to improve student awareness of career and technical education (CTE) opportunities.

The bill adds to the information required to inform the strategic 3-year plan developed jointly by the local school district, local workforce development boards, economic development agencies, and state-approved postsecondary institutions. The bill adds that the plan must be constructed and based, in part, on strategies to inform and promote the CTE opportunities available in the district to students, parents, the community, and stakeholders.

The bill aligns the collection by the Department of Education of student achievement and performance data in industry-certified career education programs and career-themed courses with the annual review conducted by the Commissioner of Education regarding K-12 and postsecondary CTE offerings.

The bill requires each district school board to inform students and parents during course selection for middle school of the career and professional academy or career-themed courses available within the district.

If approved by the Governor, or allowed to become law without the Governor's signature, these provisions take effect July 1, 2024.

Vote: Senate 39-0; House 115-0