86R3402 CAE-D

By:  Lucio III H.B. No. 4283

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the authority of the commissioner of education to create career and technical credentials and certificates that may be earned through a career and technology education program.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1.  Subchapter F, Chapter 29, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 29.1821 to read as follows:

Sec. 29.1821.  COMMISSIONER AUTHORITY TO CREATE CREDENTIALS AND CERTIFICATES. (a) To address unmet workforce needs and enhance student competitiveness in the labor market, the commissioner may create career and technical credentials or certificates that may be earned by a public high school student through a career and technology education program.

(b)  A credential or certificate created under this section must:

(1)  be aligned with state and regional workforce needs in the applicable field; and

(2)  serve as an entry point for employment or a bridge to postsecondary education in the applicable field.

(c)  The commissioner may consult with relevant stakeholders in creating credentials or certificates under this section.

(d)  The agency shall post on the agency's Internet website information regarding any credentials or certificates created by the commissioner under this section.

SECTION 2.  This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2019.