

By: Fallon

S.B. No. 2042

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a study by the Texas Education Agency of career and technology education programs.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter F, Chapter 29, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 29.193 to read as follows:

Sec. 29.193. STUDY AND REPORT ON CREDENTIALS AND CERTIFICATES. (a) The agency shall conduct a study to:

(1) evaluate the industry-recognized credentials and certificates that are currently being offered to public high school students through career and technology education programs in each region of the state; and

(2) identify any unmet needs in career and technology education programs currently being offered to public high school students in each region of the state.

(b) The study must:

(1) for each region of the state:

(A) evaluate:

(i) the industry-recognized credentials or certificates currently being offered to public high school students through career and technology education programs in the region; and

(ii) the knowledge and skills necessary to meet workforce needs in the region; and

(B) identify:

1                   (i) any gaps between the  
2 industry-recognized credentials or certificates identified under  
3 Paragraph (A)(i) and the knowledge and skills identified under  
4 Paragraph (A)(ii); and

5                   (ii) any knowledge or skills that could be  
6 incorporated into career and technology education programs in the  
7 region to increase students' marketability in that region after  
8 graduation from high school; and

9                   (2) for each currently offered industry-recognized  
10 credential or certificate, assess the economic impact of earning  
11 the credential or certificate in each region of the state,  
12 including:

13                   (A) the average industry wage for a student who  
14 has earned the credential or certificate in each region; and

15                   (B) the demand to employ a student in each region  
16 for the credential or certificate.

17                   (c) Not later than September 1, 2021, the agency shall  
18 submit to the commissioner a report that:

19                   (1) identifies any currently offered  
20 industry-recognized credential or certificate that does not  
21 provide a sufficient positive economic impact in any region of the  
22 state based on the assessment conducted under Subsection (b)(2);  
23 and

24                   (2) recommends the creation of industry-recognized  
25 credentials or certificates for each region of the state to be  
26 offered in a career and technology education program in that region  
27 that will address unmet workforce needs and enhance student

1 competitiveness in the labor market.

2 (d) This section expires September 1, 2022.

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