

- SUBJECT:** Creating a student achievement indicator for CTE programs of study
- COMMITTEE:** Public Education — favorable, without amendment
- VOTE:** 11 ayes — Dutton, Lozano, Allison, K. Bell, Bernal, Buckley, M. González, Huberty, Meza, Talarico, VanDeaver
- 0 nays
- 2 absent — Allen, K. King
- WITNESSES:** For — Kerry Gain, Del Valle ISD; Mike Meroney, Texas Association of Manufacturers; (*Registered, but did not testify:* Monty Exter, ATPE; Robin Painovich, Career and Technical Association of Texas; Taylor Sims, Project Lead the Way; Michelle Smith, Raise Your Hand Texas; Grover Campbell, TASB; Barry Haenisch, Texas Association of Community Schools; Amy Beneski, Texas Association of School Administrators; Paige Williams, Texas Classroom Teachers Association; Mark Terry, Texas Elementary Principals and Supervisors Association; Charlie Leal, Texas Farm Bureau; Ryan Skrobarczyk, Texas Nursery & Landscape Association; Suzi Kennon, Texas PTA; Starlee Coleman, Texas Public Charter Schools Association; Dee Carney, Texas School Alliance; Heather Sheffield)
- Against — None
- On — (*Registered, but did not testify:* Jeff Cottrill, Texas Education Agency)
- BACKGROUND:** Education Code sec. 39.053(c) requires school districts and campuses to be evaluated based on three domains of indicators of achievement. The domains are student achievement, school progress, and closing the gaps.
- DIGEST:** HB 773 would add an indicator in the student achievement domain of the public school accountability system for students who successfully completed a program of study in career and technical education.

The bill would apply beginning with the 2021-2022 school year.

The bill would take immediate effect if finally passed by a two-thirds record vote of the membership of each house. Otherwise, it would take effect September 1, 2021.

**SUPPORTERS
SAY:**

HB 773 would adjust the Texas public school accountability system to recognize students who complete a program of study in career and technical education. Programs of study include coherent sequences of courses, industry-based certifications, and work-based learning in a variety of disciplines, including agriculture, energy, health science, manufacturing, and information technology. These programs provide coursework and practical experience that align students' education with the state's economic needs to prepare students for high-demand careers.

Under the current accountability system, schools only get credit if a student receives an industry certification from a list of certifications, most of which are unattainable for individuals under age 18. Texas meets federal requirements under the 2018 Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V) by offering numerous programs of study, but schools do not now receive credit for students who complete these courses. Allowing schools to receive accountability system credit for their students who complete programs of study in career and technical education could provide incentives for districts to expand their CTE course offerings.

**CRITICS
SAY:**

No concerns identified.