

SUBJECT: Expanding eligibility for certain career and technology education subsidies

COMMITTEE: Public Education — favorable, without amendment

VOTE: 13 ayes — Buckley, Allen, Allison, Cunningham, Dutton, Cody Harris, Harrison, Hefner, Hinojosa, K. King, Longoria, Schaefer, Talarico

0 nays

SENATE VOTE: On final passage (April 27) — 30 - 01

WITNESSES: For — (*Registered, but did not testify*: Lesley Rivas, Mexican American School Boards Association; Jean Mayer, Pflugerville ISD; Gabriel Grantham, Texas 2036; Crystal White, Texas Association of Community Schools; Raif Calvert, Texas Association of School Boards; Suzi Kennon, Texas PTA; Bryce Adams, Texas Public Charter Schools Association; Dee Carney, Texas School Alliance)

Against — None

On — (*Registered, but did not testify*: Eric Marin, Monica Martinez, DeMarco Pitre, Texas Education Agency)

BACKGROUND: Education Code sec. 29.190 establishes subsidies for certification examinations for career and technology education programs for which teachers and students may be eligible. Under this section, a student cannot receive more than one subsidy.

Some have suggested that extending examination fee subsidies for industry-based certification and career and technology training could allow more students and teachers to earn entry-level certification.

DIGEST: SB 1087 would amend Education Code sec. 29.190 to establish that a student could be eligible for more than one relevant subsidy and include conforming language throughout to reflect the revision. The bill also would specify that a teacher was eligible for a subsidy if the teacher

passed a certification examination related to career and technology education, rather than cybersecurity.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2023.