SPONSOR: Curtis

This bill establishes the Committee for Entrepreneurs within the Department of Economic Development consisting of nine members, including two members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, two members of Senate appointed by President Pro Tem of the Senate, and five members appointed by the department director, and a grant program for certain accelerated computer programming programs.

The committee must:

- (1) Meet at least four times a year;
- (2) Determine the criteria necessary for an adequate curriculum for an accelerated technology education program;
- (3) Approve grant applications to institutions and qualified organizations for the development, expansion, or continuance of an accelerated technology education program;
- (4) Present an annual report detailing the committee's findings regarding the performance of the grant program, feedback from graduates of the accelerated technology education program and their employers, areas for improvement, possible curriculum changes, and graduate placement statistics to the General Assembly by March 15; and
- (5) Award up to 10 grants of \$15,000 to institutions or qualified organizations each year.

These provisions will expire on August 28, 2019.

The bill contains an emergency clause.