

SS HB 1415 -- WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

This bill provides students the opportunity to choose between the ACT WorkKeys assessment or ACT (including ACT Plus Writing) assessment in any school year in which the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education directs a state-funded census administration of the ACT assessment, or in which a school district directs the administration of the ACT assessment (Section 160.572, RSMo).

The bill authorizes schools to rely on technical coursework and skills assessments developed for industry-recognized certificates and credentials when developing career and technical education pathways for their students (Section 162.1115).

This bill establishes the "Career Readiness Course Task Force" to study the possibility of offering a middle school career readiness course and the members shall represent the geographic diversity of the state, as specified in the bill. The task force shall report its findings and recommendations by December 1, 2019 (Section 167.910).

The bill allows a teacher to count hours spent in a local business externship as contact hours of professional development (Section 168.024).

This bill requires the Career and Technical Education Advisory Council to annually review, update, approve, and recommend a list of industry certifications, state-issued professional licenses, and occupational competency assessments. A school district may use the list as a resource in establishing programs of study that meet their regional workforce needs (Section 170.028).

The bill modifies the composition of the Career and Technical Education Advisory Council by adding the Director of the Department of Economic Development or his or her designee (Section 178.550).

This bill provides that beginning July 1, 2018, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education shall pay monthly, out of appropriated funds for that purpose, to each sheltered workshop a sum determined by specified criteria, but no less than \$21 per day for each handicapped employee. The repeal of Section 178.930 and enactment of Section 178.931 are subject to an emergency clause which provides that the effective date of these provisions shall be July 1, 2018 (Section 178.931).

The bill reauthorizes the Missouri Works Program and the Missouri Works Training Program until August 28, 2030 (Sections 620.809 and 620.2020).

This bill contains an emergency clause.