

HB 2443 -- INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED CERTIFICATIONS

SPONSOR: Cookson

This bill requires the director of the Department of Economic Development (DED) to annually provide the State Board of Education (SBE) a list of occupations in high need of additional skilled employees that require industry-recognized certifications.

The SBE, in consultation with DED, shall rank each certification identified in the list based on employment value.

The bill requires each school district to consult with their local industries, employers, and workforce development boards to offer certifications that best meet state and local workforce needs.

This bill Specified that each school district shall subtract \$500 for each student who earns a certification that has high employment value or that results in college credit, and \$250 for all other students who earn a certification, from the district's funds budgeted for executive administration expenses. The subtracted funds must be used to offer additional industry-recognized certifications to students, and pay for fees for certification exams.