

HB 2113 -- STEM PROGRAM TO E-STEAM

SPONSOR: Bosley

Starting in the 2021-22 school year the "STEM Career Awareness Program" shall be known as the "E-STEAM Career Awareness Program" to increase E-STEAM career awareness among students in grades six through eight. The term "STEM" means science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, and the term "E-STEAM" means entrepreneurship, science, technology, engineering, arts and agriculture, and mathematics. Students will be introduced to a wide variety of "E-STEAM" careers through an on-line based "E-STEAM" curriculum.

The bill requires the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) to have the currently selected online program provider modify the program to include careers related to entrepreneurship, the arts, and technological advances in agriculture. Additional name changes to the existing "STEM" Fund and "STEM" Initiative are included in the bill and reflect the "E-STEAM" focus on adding entrepreneurship, the arts, and technological advances in agriculture.