

1 State of Arkansas
2 94th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2023
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1329

5 By: Representative S. Richardson
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For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT CONCERNING ACADEMIC STANDARDS ESTABLISHED BY
9 THE DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION;
10 TO REQUIRE THE DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY
11 EDUCATION TO INCLUDE IN THE ACADEMIC STANDARDS A
12 MEANS BY WHICH PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS MAY SUBSTITUTE
13 COMPARABLE ELECTIVE COURSEWORK IN CAREER AND
14 TECHNICAL EDUCATION FOR REQUIRED CORE ACADEMIC
15 CLASSES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

18 TO CREATE A MEANS BY WHICH PUBLIC SCHOOL
19 STUDENTS MAY SUBSTITUTE COMPARABLE
20 ELECTIVE COURSEWORK IN CAREER AND
21 TECHNICAL EDUCATION FOR REQUIRED CORE
22 ACADEMIC CLASSES.
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26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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28 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2906, concerning the establishment of
29 academic standards by the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, is
30 amended to add an additional subsection to read as follows:

31 (d)(1) The division shall include in the academic standards a means by
32 which a public school student may substitute comparable elective coursework
33 pertaining to career and technical education for core academic classes that
34 are required for graduation under the Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas
35 Public Schools and School Districts.

36 (2)(A) When establishing the means required under subdivision



1 (d)(1) of this section, the division shall create an approval process whereby
2 comparable elective coursework pertaining to career and technical education
3 may be substituted for core academic classes.

4 (B)(i) For purposes of creating the approval process for
5 substituting required core academic classes with comparable elective
6 coursework pertaining to career and technical education as required under
7 subdivision (d)(2)(A) of this section, there is established the Career and
8 Technical Education with Embedded Academics Certification Committee.

9 (ii) The committee established under subdivision
10 (d)(2)(B)(i) of this section shall:

11 (a) Consult with the division in order to
12 establish the approval process required by subdivision (d)(2)(A) of this
13 section;

14 (b) Include one (1) member from each of the
15 education service cooperatives, who shall be appointed by the director of
16 each education service cooperative;

17 (c) Review academic standards and analyze the
18 comparable career and technical education standards for embedded academic
19 content that are or will be offered in the upcoming school year;

20 (d)(1) Produce a crosswalk document that shows
21 the alignment of relevant core academic standards to the career and technical
22 education standards.

23 (2) Each alignment described by
24 subdivision (d)(2)(B)(ii)(d)(1) of this section shall offer the rationale as
25 to why a lesson concerning academic content may be substituted.

26 (3)(A) The crosswalk document required
27 under subdivision (d)(2)(B)(ii)(d)(1) of this section shall be provided to
28 the division by June 1 of each year.

29 (B) The division shall certify the
30 alignments proposed in the crosswalk document required under subdivision
31 (d)(2)(B)(ii)(d)(1) of this section as eligible to be substitute comparable
32 elective coursework under this section each year by July 15.

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