HOUSE BILL 1424

State of Washington 66th Legislature 2019 Regular Session

By Representatives Steele and Paul; by request of Superintendent of Public Instruction

1 AN ACT Relating to increasing access to state career and 2 technical course equivalencies; amending RCW 28A.230.010 and 3 28A.230.015; and reenacting and amending RCW 28A.230.097.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 Sec. 1. RCW 28A.230.010 and 2018 c 177 s 302 are each amended to 6 read as follows:

(1) School district boards of directors shall identify and offer courses with content that meet or exceed: (a) The basic education skills identified in RCW 28A.150.210; (b) the graduation requirements under RCW 28A.230.090; (c) the courses required to meet the minimum college entrance requirements under RCW 28A.230.130; and (d) the course options for career development under RCW 28A.230.130. Such courses may be applied or theoretical, academic, or vocational.

(2) Until September 1, 2021, school district boards of directors 14 15 must provide high school students with the opportunity to access at 16 least one career and technical education course that is considered 17 ((equivalent to a mathematics course or at least one career and 18 technical education course that is considered equivalent to a science 19 course)) a state equivalency framework as determined by the office of 20 the superintendent of public instruction ((<u>in</u>)) under RCW 28A.700.070. 21

1 <u>(3) On and after September 1, 2021, any course determined by the</u> 2 <u>office of the superintendent of public instruction under RCW</u> 3 <u>28A.700.070 to be a state equivalent course must be offered for</u> 4 <u>academic credit.</u>

5 <u>(4)</u> Students may access ((such)) <u>state equivalent</u> courses at high 6 schools, interdistrict cooperatives, skill centers or branch or 7 satellite skill centers, or through online learning or applicable 8 running start vocational courses.

9 (((3)(a) Until January 1, 2019, school district boards of 10 directors of school districts with fewer than two thousand students 11 may apply to the state board of education for a waiver from the 12 provisions of subsection (2) of this section.

13 (b)) (5) On and after January 1, 2019, school district boards of 14 directors of school districts with fewer than two thousand students 15 may apply to the superintendent of public instruction for a waiver 16 from the provisions of subsections (2) and (3) of this section under 17 RCW 28A.230.015.

18 Sec. 2. RCW 28A.230.015 and 2018 c 177 s 504 are each amended to 19 read as follows:

(1) The superintendent of public instruction may grant a waiver from the provisions of RCW 28A.230.010(2) based on an application from a board of directors of a school district with fewer than two thousand students.

(2) The ((state board of education)) superintendent of public
 instruction may adopt rules establishing the criteria to evaluate the
 need for a waiver or waivers under this section.

27 Sec. 3. RCW 28A.230.097 and 2018 c 177 s 301 and 2018 c 73 s 1 28 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

29 (1) Each high school or school district board of directors shall adopt course equivalencies for career and technical high school 30 courses offered to students in high schools and skill centers. A 31 career and technical course equivalency may be for whole or partial 32 credit. Each school district board of directors shall develop a 33 34 course equivalency approval procedure. Boards of directors must approve AP computer science courses as equivalent to high school 35 36 mathematics or science, and must denote on a student's transcript 37 that AP computer science qualifies as a math-based quantitative

HB 1424

p. 2

1 course for students who take the course in their senior year.
2 ((Beginning no later than the 2015-16 school year))

3 (2) Until September 1, 2021, a school district board of directors 4 must, at a minimum, grant academic course equivalency ((in 5 mathematics or science for a)) for at least one state equivalency 6 high school career and technical course from the list of courses 7 approved by the superintendent of public instruction under RCW 8 28A.700.070((, but is not limited to the courses on the list)).

9 <u>(3)(a)</u> If the list of courses is revised after the 2015-16 school 10 year, the school district board of directors must grant academic 11 course equivalency based on the revised list beginning with the 12 school year immediately following the revision.

13 (((2))) (b) Each high school or school district board of 14 directors may additionally adopt local course equivalencies for 15 career and technical education courses that are not on the list of 16 courses approved by the superintendent of public instruction under 17 RCW 28A.700.070 as local equivalency courses in support of RCW 18 28A.700.070.

19 <u>(4) On and after September 1, 2021, any course determined by the</u> 20 <u>office of the superintendent of public instruction under RCW</u> 21 <u>28A.700.070 to be a state equivalent course must be offered for</u> 22 <u>academic credit.</u>

23 (5) Career and technical courses determined to be equivalent to 24 academic core courses, in full or in part, by the high school or 25 school district shall be accepted as meeting core requirements, including graduation requirements, if the courses are recorded on the 26 27 student's transcript using the equivalent academic high school 28 department designation and title. Full or partial credit shall be recorded as appropriate. The high school or school district shall 29 also issue and keep record of course completion certificates that 30 31 demonstrate that the career and technical courses were successfully completed as needed for industry certification, college credit, or 32 preapprenticeship, as applicable. The certificate shall be part of 33 the student's high school and beyond plan. The office of the 34 superintendent of public instruction shall develop and make available 35 electronic samples of certificates of course completion. 36

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p. 3