

HB 380 -- CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION DIPLOMA

SPONSOR: Swan

This bill requires the State Board of Education to establish minimum graduation requirements for a career and technical education (CTE) high school diploma. Students entering high school in the 2016-17 school year and thereafter will be eligible to earn a CTE diploma, which will confer the same benefits as any other high school diploma meeting graduation requirements.

The CTE diploma will be based on requirements designed to provide students with technical skills and core academic skills to be ready for a career in a technical field. Curriculum, programs of study, and course offerings will be determined by the local school district based on the needs and interests of the district's students. The State Board of Education will work in cooperation with local districts to stipulate the minimum number of vocational offerings per district with a goal of establishing at least six vocational areas of study in each district. Districts must make an effort to offer programs of study for as many vocational career paths as economically feasible, and in establishing curriculum requirements may incorporate standards for industry-recognized certifications.