

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend and reenact § 22.1-227.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to public middle and high*
3 *schools; establishment of career and technical education student organizations; certain exclusions.*

4 [H 1783]

5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**7 **1. That § 22.1-227.1 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**8 **§ 22.1-227.1. Career and technical education.**

9 A. The Board shall incorporate into career and technical education the Standards of Learning for
10 mathematics, science, English, and social studies, including history, and other subject areas as may be
11 appropriate. The Board may also authorize, in its regulations for accrediting public schools in Virginia, the
12 substitution of industry certification and state licensure examinations for Standards of Learning assessments
13 for the purpose of awarding credit for career and technical education courses, where appropriate.

14 B. The Board shall also develop a plan for increasing the number of students receiving industry
15 certification and state licensure as part of their career and technical education. The plan shall include an
16 annual goal for school divisions. Where there is an accepted national industry certification for career and
17 technical education instructional personnel and programs for automotive technology, such certification shall
18 be mandatory.

19 C. With such funds as may be appropriated for such purpose, there shall be established, within the
20 Department, a unit of specialists in career and technical education. The unit shall (i) assist in developing and
21 revising local career and technical curriculum to integrate the Standards of Learning, (ii) provide professional
22 development for career and technical instructional personnel to improve the quality of career and technical
23 education, (iii) conduct site visits to the schools providing career and technical education, and (iv) seek the
24 input of business and industry representatives regarding the content and direction of career and technical
25 education programs in the public schools of the Commonwealth.

26 D. The Board shall develop guidelines for the establishment of High School to Work Partnerships,
27 hereafter referred to as "Partnerships," between public high schools and local businesses to create
28 opportunities for high school students to (i) participate in an apprenticeship, internship, or job shadow
29 program in a variety of trades and skilled labor positions or (ii) tour local businesses and meet with owners
30 and employees. These guidelines shall include a model waiver form to be used by high schools and local
31 businesses in connection with Partnership programs to protect both the students and the businesses from
32 liability.

33 Each local school board may establish Partnerships or delegate the authority to establish Partnerships to
34 the local school division's career and technical education administrator or his designee, in collaboration with
35 the school counselor office of each public high school in the school division, and shall educate high school
36 students about opportunities available through such Partnerships.

37 Students who miss a partial or full day of school while participating in Partnership programs shall not be
38 counted as absent for the purposes of calculating average daily membership, but each local school board shall
39 develop policies and procedures for students to make up missed work and may determine the maximum
40 number of school days per academic year that a student may spend participating in a Partnership program.

41 E. Each public middle school and high school, regardless of whether such school offers career and
42 technical education courses, may establish career and technical education student organizations, *except in the*
43 *case of any such organization that is established as a federally chartered corporation pursuant to an act of*
44 *Congress.*