



**House Bill No. 5434**

**Special Act No. 14-19**

**AN ACT CONCERNING A PLAN FOR CAREER READINESS AND  
MANUFACTURING APPRENTICESHIP PREPARATION  
PROGRAMS AT THE TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOLS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. (*Effective July 1, 2014*) (a) Not later than January 1, 2015, the technical high school system, in collaboration with the Labor Department, the state Department of Education, the Board of Regents for Higher Education, and industry and business representatives, shall develop a plan to utilize the manufacturing centers at the technical high schools after regular school hours and on weekends for (1) career-readiness programs for students of Connecticut high schools or institutions of higher education or adults seeking to reenter the workforce, and (2) offering instruction approved by the office within the Labor Department that is responsible for apprenticeship training to teach the skills necessary for a person to succeed in a manufacturing apprenticeship program certified in accordance with regulations adopted by the Labor Commissioner and registered with the Connecticut State Apprenticeship Council established under section 31-22n of the general statutes.

(b) In developing such plan, the technical high school system, Labor Department, state Department of Education and Board of Regents for

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Higher Education shall consider, but not limit consideration to, the following:

(1) The recommendations of the Connecticut early college task force, convened by the president of the Board of Regents for Higher Education and the Commissioner of Education, including, but not limited to, expanding the manufacturing technology program at Asnuntuck Community College to other locations;

(2) Preparing participants for the national career readiness certificate examination or other nationally recognized credentials;

(3) Integrating a (A) program developed by the Board of Regents for Higher Education to assist students who are deficient in mathematics skills, and (B) curriculum that provides career readiness training;

(4) Incorporating on-line manufacturing training;

(5) Investigating whether there are any benefits to Connecticut becoming a work ready community through a partnership with ACT;

(6) Utilizing the Labor Department's pre-apprenticeship program to enable students to obtain work experience and complete the educational requirements of an apprenticeship program certified in accordance with regulations adopted by the Labor Commissioner and registered with the Connecticut State Apprenticeship Council established under section 31-22n of the general statutes;

(7) The emerging regional, state and national industries and related technologies and the technical training needed to improve workforce readiness for such industries;

(8) Examining methods of overcoming impediments to utilizing the technical high schools, including, but not limited to, the requirement that a nurse be present in the building and the availability of technical

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high school teaching professionals;

(9) Identifying the necessary resources to fund and implement such plan, including leveraging state and federal funding and grants from private entities; and

(10) Affording students the ability to earn college credit where applicable.

Not later than January 1, 2015, the Commissioner of Education shall report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, on such plan to the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education, labor and higher education.

Approved June 11, 2014