
OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 153

AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND CAREER SYSTEM.

SUMMARY

This bill makes several changes affecting the Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS), including the services it must provide students who need special education. Existing law requires CTECS to, among other things, provide an appropriate educational program for each child requiring special education. The bill explicitly requires CTECS to provide transition services as part of this requirement (i.e., services facilitating the student's transition from school to postsecondary activities such as postsecondary education and training, employment, or independent living) (§ 6).

The bill also requires CTECS (rather than the local or regional board of education) to convene a planning and placement team meeting for home-schooled special education students before they enroll in a CTECS school. As under existing law, the meeting must address the student's transition to a CTECS school and ensure that his or her individualized education program (IEP) reflects the current supports and services he or she requires (§ 6).

The bill also makes several changes to conform the law to current practice. It requires, rather than allows, CTECS to offer part-time and evening programs and requires it to offer extracurricular programs in vocational, technical, technological, and postsecondary education and training. The bill also requires that students admitted to a CTECS postsecondary education program without a high school diploma have completed the school year in which they turn 22 (rather than be age 21 or older) (§§ 4 & 5).

Additionally, the bill removes obsolete references to conform the law

to CTECS's establishment as an independent state agency. Specifically, it removes references to the (1) State Department of Education (SDE) in a statute requiring CTECS to indemnify certain donors of tangible property and (2) effective date of the 2017 legislation that established CTECS (§§ 3 & 5).

Lastly, the bill makes other technical and conforming changes (§§ 1 & 2).

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage, except that the provisions on transition services, SDE reference, and other technical and conforming changes are effective July 1, 2024.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Education Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute Change of Reference - APP
Yea 45 Nay 0 (03/06/2024)

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute
Yea 52 Nay 0 (04/04/2024)