

SENATE BILL SUMMARY

Prepared by the Division of Legislative Information for the Senate Bill **AS ORIGINALLY FILED**. For more detail, see Senate Bill Analyses, if available, prepared by the Senate's professional committee staff.

SB 228 Charter Technical Career Centers by Senator Wise

Creates the Charter Technical Career Center Associate in Applied Science and Associate in Science Degrees Program. Provides that the purpose of the program is to authorize charter technical career centers to offer such degree programs in order to meet local workforce needs.

Authorizes charter technical career centers to submit proposals to the State Board of Education to participate in the program in their respective districts. Authorizes such career centers to offer the degree programs through partnerships with community colleges or through direct authority to award such degrees. Requires that a participating career center implement the program through a memorandum of agreement entered into between the board and the center. Provides that the agreement outlines expectations for administrative oversight and accountability for the initial and continued approval of the program.

Prohibits a charter technical career center from requesting additional funding for the initial costs associated with implementing the degree programs during the first two years after receiving authorization. Requires that funding for operational costs be at the same level as funding for workforce development programs.

Provides requirements for participating charter technical career centers to include the following:

- maintaining responsibility for responding to the community's needs for postsecondary career degree programs and workforce education programs
- maintaining an open-door admissions policy for associate degree programs and workforce education programs and
- accepting credit for courses meeting general education prerequisite requirements which are earned in an approved program at an accredited college or university. (See bill for details)