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**HOUSE BILL NO. 1493**

Offered January 12, 2011

Prefiled December 15, 2010

A *BILL to amend and reenact § 22.1-227.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to career and technical education industry certifications.*

Patrons—Greason, Bell, Richard P. and McClellan

Referred to Committee on Education

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

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

The Board shall also develop a plan for increasing the number of students receiving industry certification and state licensure as part of their career and technical education. The plan shall include an annual goal for school divisions *and a requirement that where there is an accepted national industry certification for career and technical education instructional personnel or program, such certification is mandatory.*

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

INTRODUCED

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