

# 2023 SESSION

## SENATE SUBSTITUTE

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### SENATE BILL NO. 1277

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE  
(Proposed by the Senate Committee on Education and Health  
on February 2, 2023)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Senator Dunnavant)

A *BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 22.1-207.8, relating to high school students; academic credit for certain work experience and fine arts programs; guidelines.*

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

**1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 22.1-207.8 as follows:**

**§ 22.1-207.8. Academic credit for work experience; fine arts programs; guidelines.**

*The Board shall develop guidelines and policies for permitting any high school student in grades 11 and 12 to earn one-half standard unit of credit per semester for employment in certain fields or industries or participation in certain fine arts programs in which such student works or participates a certain minimum number of hours per week for each week of the semester, as determined by the Board. Such guidelines and policies shall include:*

*1. Standards and requirements for determining the eligibility of employment and fine arts programs for awarding academic credit, including eligibility criteria and approval procedures for specific employers and programs;*

*2. Standards for how the one-half unit of credit is to be awarded and policies for monitoring and evaluating student participation in and completion of approved employment or fine arts programs; and*

*3. Any other policies that the Board deems appropriate.*

**2. That the Board of Education shall collaborate with and seek input from the Coordinator of Fine Arts for the Department of Education and a representative from the Virginia Coalition for Fine Arts Education in developing and implementing guidelines and policies for awarding academic credit for participation in certain fine arts programs pursuant to this act.**

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