



621 Ridgely Avenue, Suite 300, Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-5414 · 800-841-8197 · Fax: 410-841-6580 · MABE.org

BILL: House Bill 1098
TITLE: Career and Technology Education and Workforce Investment Act
DATE: February 20, 2018
POSITION: SUPPORT
COMMITTEE: Appropriations Committee
CONTACT: John R. Woolums, Esq.

The Maryland Association of Boards of Education (MABE), representing all of the state's local boards of education, supports House Bill 1098.

MABE supports this bill's proposal to establish a new Career and Technology Education Grant Program to provide matching grants to local boards of education for the capital equipping of school facilities used to provide a CTE program; and authorizes the Governor to include up to \$2 million for the grant program. In addition, this bill would mandate an annual appropriation of \$3 million the state budget for the Workforce Development Sequence Scholarship.

Maryland State law also requires the State Board of Education, in consultation with DLLR and the Governor's Workforce Development Board, to develop statewide career and technical education goals. Specifically, goals must be set for each year from 2018 through 2024 so that by January 1, 2025, 45% of high school students successfully complete a CTE program, earn industry-recognized occupational or skill credentials, or complete a registered youth or other apprenticeship before graduating high school. This bold statewide goal is conceptually aligned with federal education reforms; and will require significant state investments to achieve.

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), and Maryland State ESSA Plan, prominently feature a strong emphasis on Career and Technology Education (CTE) and apprenticeship programs. Maryland's statewide accountability system provides "credit for completion of a well-rounded curriculum" for those students who, among other criteria, have:

- completed a youth or other apprenticeship training program approved by the Maryland Apprenticeship Training Council;
- completed an industry certification aligned with an MSDE-approved CTE program and achieved CTE concentrator level status or higher; or
- completed an MSDE-approved Career and Technology Education program.

As Maryland strives to expand CTE and apprenticeship programs, it is imperative that federal funding continues to provide a substantial amount of the funding for these programs. Therefore, MABE is advocating for the reauthorization of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act. As envisioned by Every Student Succeeds Act, the new Perkins CTE Act should cultivate aligned and innovative academic and credentialing programs designed to advance 21st Century skills and should help school systems offer practical training through apprenticeships, expand dual and concurrent enrollment opportunities, hire and retain skilled CTE educators, and develop classrooms designed and equipped to deliver high quality CTE instruction.

Again, MABE believes that House Bill 1098 is consistent with, and complementary to, Maryland's ongoing work to enhance career technology education opportunities for our students.

For these reasons, MABE requests a favorable report on House Bill 1098.