

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

**BILL #:** HB 1279 Florida Talent Development Council

**SPONSOR(S):** Melo and others

**TIED BILLS:** None **IDEN./SIM. BILLS:** SB 128

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR or BUDGET/POLICY CHIEF
1) Secondary Education & Career Development Subcommittee	15 Y, 0 N	Sleap	Sanchez
2) Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee			
3) Education & Employment Committee			

### SUMMARY ANALYSIS

To determine the feasibility of establishing and implementing a Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH) program, or a similar program, in Florida, the bill requires the Florida Talent Development Council (FTDC) to submit a report by December 1, 2021, addressing implementation.

The bill defines a P-TECH program as one that incorporates secondary and postsecondary education with workforce education and work experience using a flexible 6-year integrated model.

The bill requires the FTDC report to, at a minimum, include: a model program whereby a student earns a high school diploma, an associate degree, and applicable industry certifications and work experience within 6 years; a funding model that provides the program at no-cost to students; recommendations to modify the district and school accountability requirements; an open enrollment policy; courses of study which meet regional workforce demand and support program completion in 4-6 years; school governance and staffing recommendations; implementation timelines; articulation to postsecondary education; recommendations for partnerships with industries and businesses; and a support model for student success.

The bill does not appear to have a fiscal impact.

The bill takes effect upon becoming law.

# FULL ANALYSIS

## I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

### A. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

#### Present Situation

##### PTECH 9-14 School Model

The Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-Tech) 9-14 school model is a pioneering global education reform initiative created by IBM that prepares students with the academic, technical and professional skills required for 21<sup>st</sup> Century jobs and ongoing education.<sup>1</sup> In September 2011, the first P-TECH school was launched in Brooklyn, New York, through a public-private partnership between IBM, the New York City Department of Education, and The City University of New York.<sup>2</sup> The P-TECH school was designed to accomplish two goals:

1. address the global “skills gap” and strengthen regional economies by building a workforce with the academic, technical and professional skills required for new jobs; and
2. provide underserved youth with an innovate education that creates a direct pathway to college attainment and career readiness.<sup>3</sup>

From the first school launched in 2011, the P-TECH model has grown to implementation in 165 schools across nine states in the United States<sup>4</sup> and 27 international counties.<sup>5</sup> Over 600 companies are partnering with schools in industries such as health information management, advanced manufacturing and energy technology.<sup>6</sup> P-TECH schools currently operating in the United States have developed 43 career pathways in areas such as advanced manufacturing, construction technology, healthcare, and machining.<sup>7</sup>

##### *How the Model Works*

The P-TECH model is a partnership among K-12, postsecondary, and industry, whereby the partners commit to providing students with rigorous and hands-on academic, technical, and workplace experiences.<sup>8</sup> P-TECH schools span grades 9-14, and enable students to earn both a high school diploma and a no-cost, two-year postsecondary degree in a STEM field.<sup>9</sup> The public-private partnership model aims to provide opportunities for a middle-skills workforce that has more than a high school diploma, but less than a four-year college degree.<sup>10</sup>

The P-TECH model begins in the ninth grade and integrates work-based learning opportunities for students, such as mentoring, worksite visits and paid internships.<sup>11</sup> The P-TECH model is designed as a six year experience, however, students are able to move at their own pace, allowing students to accelerate through the model.<sup>12</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> P-TECH, *About*, <http://www.ptech.org/about/> (last visited March 4, 2021).

<sup>2</sup> P-TECH, *History*, <http://www.ptech.org/about/history/> (last visited March 4, 2021).

<sup>3</sup> *Id.*

<sup>4</sup> P-TECH, *Schools in United States*, <https://www.ptech.org/p-tech-network/our-schools/usa/> (last visited March 4, 2021).; The nine U.S. states with P-TECH schools include Colorado, Connecticut, Illinois, Louisiana, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, and Texas.

<sup>5</sup> P-TECH, *Our Schools Map*, <https://www.ptech.org/p-tech-network/our-schools/> (last visited March 4, 2021).

<sup>6</sup> P-TECH History, *supra* note 2.

<sup>7</sup> P-TECH Schools in United States, *supra* note 4.

<sup>8</sup> P-TECH, *How it Works-The Model*, <http://www.ptech.org/how-it-works/the-model/> (last visited March 4, 2021).

<sup>9</sup> P-TECH, *Mission*, <http://www.ptech.org/about/mission/> (last visited March 4, 2021).

<sup>10</sup> MDRC, *Bridging the School-to-Work Divide, Interim Implementation and Impact Findings from New York City's P-TECH 9-14 Schools* (May 2020), at 1, available at [https://www.mdrc.org/sites/default/files/P-TECH\\_Report\\_2020.pdf](https://www.mdrc.org/sites/default/files/P-TECH_Report_2020.pdf).

<sup>11</sup> *Id.* at ES-3.

<sup>12</sup> P-TECH, *How it Works-Integrated High School and College Coursework*, <https://www.ptech.org/how-it-works/the-model/integrated-high-school/> (last visited March 4, 2021).

The model is comprised of six key components:

1. Public-Private Partnership: developing and sustaining partnerships with the school district, postsecondary institution, and one or more major employers;
2. Six-Year Integrated Program: integrating high school and college courses, which are aligned to essential industry skills and lead to a postsecondary degree for students;<sup>13</sup>
3. Workplace Learning: providing opportunities for students to obtain and develop workplace skills both in the classroom and with hands-on experiences;
4. Open Enrollment: schools are open to all students and have no grade or testing requirements for admission;
5. No Cost: the P-TECH school program and the associate degree earned is provided at no cost to students or their families; and
6. Access to Jobs: industry partners commit to making graduates first in line for jobs.<sup>14</sup>

Funding for a P-TECH school comes from a variety of sources including K-12 schools, postsecondary, workforce, and other grants. Ensuring adequate funding for the school is important for its ongoing sustainability and high-quality replication in a state.<sup>15</sup>

Presently, the Department of Education is not aware of any schools in Florida offering a P-TECH or similar program.<sup>16</sup>

### Florida Talent Development Council

In 2019, the legislature reconstituted the Higher Education Coordinating Council (HECC) as the Florida Talent Development Council (FTDC) for the purpose of developing a data-driven, statewide approach to meeting Florida's need for a 21<sup>st</sup> century workforce, which utilizes the in-state talent supply system.<sup>17</sup> The FTDC is responsible for the development and monitoring of a strategic plan<sup>18</sup> for talent development to accomplish the Strengthening Alignment between Industry and Learning (SAIL) to 60 goal which aims to have 60 percent of working age adults with a high-value postsecondary credential by 2030.<sup>19</sup>

### **Effect of Proposed Changes**

To determine the feasibility of establishing and implementing the Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH) program in Florida, the bill requires the Florida Talent Development Council (FTDC) to submit a report by December 1, 2021, to the Governor, Senate President, Speaker of the House, Board of Governors, and the State Board of Education, with recommendations addressing the feasibility of implementing the P-TECH program, or a similar program, in Florida.

The bill defines a P-TECH program as one that incorporates secondary and postsecondary education with workforce education and work experience using a flexible 6-year integrated model.

The FTDC's report on implementing the P-TECH program, or a similar program, must, at a minimum, include the following:

- a school model program for students to earn a high school diploma, an associate degree, and applicable industry certifications and work experience within 6 years after enrolling in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade, with the council having the discretion to take into consideration magnet schools, schools-within-a-school, charter schools, pilot programs, and other school model options;

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<sup>13</sup> P-TECH, *College Partner*, <http://www.ptech.org/how-it-works/partners/college-partners/> (last visited March 4, 2021); The P-TECH school model suggests a choice between a maximum of two associate of applied science degrees to provide greater structure and support for students.

<sup>14</sup> P-TECH How it Works-The Model, *supra* note 8.

<sup>15</sup> P-TECH, *How it Works-Funding*, <http://www.ptech.org/how-it-works/funding/> (last visited March 4, 2021).

<sup>16</sup> Florida Department of Education, Agency Analysis of House Bill 1279, p.3 (Jan. 27, 2021).

<sup>17</sup> Section 1004.015(1), F.S.

<sup>18</sup> Florida Talent Development Council, *Strategic Plan 2020-2030* (2019), available at [https://floridajobs.org/docs/default-source/communicationsfiles/florida-talent-development-council/ftdc-plan.pdf?sfvrsn=4eae40b0\\_6](https://floridajobs.org/docs/default-source/communicationsfiles/florida-talent-development-council/ftdc-plan.pdf?sfvrsn=4eae40b0_6).

<sup>19</sup> Section 1004.015(4), F.S.

- a funding model that ensures the program, is provided at no cost to students and funding recommendations may incorporate K-12, postsecondary, workforce, grants, scholarships, and other funding options;
- recommendations for modifications to the school and district accountability requirements to accommodate flexibility within the program;
- an open enrollment policy that encourages a diverse student body that includes students from low-income families and first-generation college students;
- courses of study which support program completion in 4 to 6 years and which meet regional workforce demand;
- school governance and staffing recommendations, including faculty qualifications;
- timelines and additional funding requirements for planning and launching a program at a school;
- a plan for seamless articulation with the postsecondary institutions of this state;
- recommendations for partnerships with industries and businesses, which include private investment, work-based training, internships, and priority placement for job opportunities upon graduation; and
- a support model for student success, which may include flexible class scheduling, advising and mentoring components, and other wrap-around services.

**B. SECTION DIRECTORY:**

**Section 1:** Amends s.1004.015, F.S.; requiring the council, by a specified date, to submit to specified entities a report that includes recommendations on the feasibility of establishing and implementing the Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH) program or a similar program; defining the term "P-TECH program"; providing requirements for the report.

**Section 2:** Provides the act shall take effect upon becoming law.

**II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT**

**A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:**

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

**B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:**

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

**C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:**

None.

**D. FISCAL COMMENTS:**

None.

### **III. COMMENTS**

#### **A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:**

##### **1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:**

None. This bill does not appear to affect county or municipal governments.

##### **2. Other:**

None.

#### **B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:**

None.

#### **C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:**

None.

### **IV. AMENDMENTS/ COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES**

None.