

By Senator Diaz

36-00215-21

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the Florida Talent Development
3 Council; amending s. 1004.015, F.S.; requiring the
4 council, by a specified date, to submit to specified
5 entities a report that includes recommendations on the
6 feasibility of establishing and implementing the
7 Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-
8 TECH) program or a similar program; defining the term
9 "P-TECH program"; providing requirements for the
10 report; providing an effective date.

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12 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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14 Section 1. Subsection (6) is added to section 1004.015,
15 Florida Statutes, to read:

16 1004.015 Florida Talent Development Council.—

17 (6) By December 1, 2021, the council shall submit to the
18 Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House
19 of Representatives, the Board of Governors, and the State Board
20 of Education a report with recommendations that address the
21 feasibility of establishing and implementing the Pathways in
22 Technology Early College High School (P-TECH) program, or a
23 similar program, in this state. As used in this subsection, the
24 term "P-TECH program" means a program that incorporates
25 secondary and postsecondary education with workforce education
26 and work experience using a flexible 6-year integrated model.
27 The report must, at a minimum, include all of the following:

28 (a) A school model program for students to earn a high
29 school diploma, an associate degree, and applicable industry

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30 certifications and work experience within 6 years after
31 enrolling in the 9th grade. Magnet schools, schools-within-a-
32 school, charter schools, pilot programs, and other school model
33 options may be considered by the council.

34 (b) A funding model that ensures that the P-TECH program,
35 or a similar program, is provided at no cost to students.
36 Funding model recommendations may incorporate K-12,
37 postsecondary, workforce, grants, scholarships, and other
38 funding options.

39 (c) Recommendations for modifications to the school and
40 district accountability requirements of s. 1008.34 to
41 accommodate flexibility within the model program.

42 (d) An open enrollment policy that encourages a diverse
43 student body that includes students from low-income families and
44 first-generation college students.

45 (e) Courses of study which support program completion in 4
46 to 6 years and which meet regional workforce demand.

47 (f) School governance and staffing recommendations,
48 including faculty qualifications.

49 (g) Timelines and additional funding requirements for
50 planning and launching a P-TECH program, or a similar program,
51 at a school.

52 (h) A plan for seamless articulation with the postsecondary
53 institutions of this state.

54 (i) Recommendations for partnerships with industries and
55 businesses, which include private investment, work-based
56 training, internships, and priority placement for job
57 opportunities upon graduation.

58 (j) A support model for student success, which may include

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59 flexible class scheduling, advising and mentoring components,
60 and other wrap-around services.

61 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.