

1 AN ACT relating to career and technical education.

2 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

3 ➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS 158.810 TO 158.818 IS CREATED  
4 TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

5 (1) In order to ensure that Kentucky's system of career and technical education is  
6 unified, equitably funded, collaborative, responsive to industry, and sustainable  
7 and provides equalized access to all Kentucky students, notwithstanding KRS  
8 156.844 and 157.069, the Kentucky Department of Education is directed to  
9 develop a plan that transitions the management of every state-operated secondary  
10 area vocational education and technology center to a local school district by July  
11 1, 2024, and implements processes and requirements to achieve the system's  
12 goals. Each local school district shall be subject to the plan and shall collaborate  
13 with the department as needed to achieve the plan's objectives.

14 (2) The commissioner of education shall establish and appoint members to a Career  
15 and Technical Education Transition workgroup to work with the department on  
16 the development and implementation of the comprehensive plan. The workgroup  
17 shall include two (2) members of the Kentucky House of Representatives  
18 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; two (2) members of the  
19 Kentucky Senate appointed by the President of the Senate; representatives of  
20 business and industry, the Office of Career and Technical Education, locally  
21 operated secondary area centers, state-operated secondary area centers, the  
22 Kentucky Association of School Superintendents, the Kentucky Association for  
23 Career and Technical Education, and the Kentucky School Boards Association;  
24 and any other individuals deemed appropriate by the commissioner.

25 (3) The plan shall include but not be limited to:

26 (a) Creating a process for determining which local board of education shall  
27 assume management and control of each state-operated center;

- 1        (b) Facilitating an interlocal agreement among school districts for the  
2        transition of a state-operated center that serves students from more than  
3        one (1) district;
- 4        (c) Facilitating interlocal agreements among school districts to promote  
5        regional academies;
- 6        (d) Establishing requirements for the transfer of employees to local districts,  
7        including but not limited to salary, accrued leave, and tenure;
- 8        (e) Creating a process for determining needed career pathway programs that  
9        aligns with the process established in KRS 158.6455(1)(c) for prioritizing  
10       high-demand, industry-recognized postsecondary credentials, certifications,  
11       and licensures, and incentivizing the offering of such programs;
- 12       (f) Creating a process for the department's approval of new programs and  
13       closing of existing programs, including developing guidelines for  
14       determining continuing need for programs after one (1) year of being  
15       transferred from a state-operated center to a local district;
- 16       (g) Ensuring the alignment of career pathway programs with state standards;
- 17       (h) Creating conditions for equalized access by all Kentucky students to at least  
18       three (3) high-demand career pathways;
- 19       (i) Developing a comprehensive, equitable funding model that includes  
20       elements based on offering high-demand career pathways, district  
21       collaboration and utilization of regional offerings, purchasing and  
22       maintaining large equipment, and student outcomes; and
- 23       (j) Developing a reorganization plan for the Office of Career and Technical  
24       Education that reflects the ending of state management of the centers  
25       including the transition of the office's employees.
- 26       (4) The plan's provisions shall be subject to the approval of the Kentucky Board of  
27       Education.

1 (5) Beginning in 2020, the department shall provide an annual report by November  
2 30 to the Interim Joint Committee on Education on the progress of the  
3 workgroup and the implementation of the plan, including any needed statutory  
4 changes and budget requests identified by the workgroup. The annual reports  
5 shall be provided until the transition of all state-operated centers is completed.

6 ➔Section 2. Having determined that changes are needed to the current state  
7 processes for funding career and technical education to ensure adequate and equitable  
8 funding and that a unified locally operated career and technical system is essential to  
9 ensuring the Commonwealth's investments in career and technical education lead to  
10 accomplishing state priorities, it is the intent of the General Assembly that all funds  
11 appropriated for career and technical education beginning with the 2024-2025 fiscal year  
12 be allocated using the comprehensive funding model developed in Section 1 of this Act.