

1 State of Arkansas  
2 94th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2023  
4

As Engrossed: H2/8/23

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1329

5 By: Representatives R. Scott Richardson, *Andrews, Beaty Jr., Joey Carr, G. Hodges, McClure, Rye*  
6 *By: Senators J. English, J. Dotson*  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT CONCERNING ACADEMIC STANDARDS ESTABLISHED BY  
10 THE DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION;  
11 TO REQUIRE THE DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY  
12 EDUCATION TO INCLUDE IN THE ACADEMIC STANDARDS A  
13 MEANS BY WHICH PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS MAY SUBSTITUTE  
14 COMPARABLE ELECTIVE COURSEWORK IN CAREER AND  
15 TECHNICAL EDUCATION FOR REQUIRED CORE ACADEMIC  
16 CLASSES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

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20 TO CREATE A MEANS BY WHICH PUBLIC SCHOOL  
21 STUDENTS MAY SUBSTITUTE COMPARABLE  
22 ELECTIVE COURSEWORK IN CAREER AND  
23 TECHNICAL EDUCATION FOR REQUIRED CORE  
24 ACADEMIC CLASSES.

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27 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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29 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2906, concerning the establishment of  
30 academic standards by the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, is  
31 amended to add an additional subsection to read as follows:

32 (d)(1) The division shall include in the academic standards a means by  
33 which a public school student may substitute comparable elective coursework  
34 pertaining to career and technical education for core academic classes that  
35 are required for graduation under the Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas  
36 Public Schools and School Districts.



1           (2)(A) When establishing the means required under subdivision  
2 (d)(1) of this section, the division shall create an approval process whereby  
3 comparable elective coursework pertaining to career and technical education  
4 may be substituted for core academic classes.

5           (B)(i) For purposes of creating the approval process for  
6 substituting required core academic classes with comparable elective  
7 coursework pertaining to career and technical education as required under  
8 subdivision (d)(2)(A) of this section, there is established the Career and  
9 Technical Education with Embedded Academics Certification Committee.

10           (ii) The committee established under subdivision  
11 (d)(2)(B)(i) of this section shall:

12                   (a) Consult with the division in order to  
13 establish the approval process required by subdivision (d)(2)(A) of this  
14 section;

15                   (b) Include one (1) member from each of the  
16 education service cooperatives, who shall be appointed by the director of  
17 each education service cooperative;

18                   (c) Review academic standards and analyze the  
19 comparable career and technical education standards for embedded academic  
20 content that are or will be offered in the upcoming school year;

21                   (d)(1) Produce a crosswalk document that shows  
22 the alignment of relevant core academic standards to the career and technical  
23 education standards.

24                   (2) Each alignment described by  
25 subdivision (d)(2)(B)(ii)(d)(1) of this section shall offer the rationale as  
26 to why a lesson concerning academic content may be substituted.

27                   (3)(A) The crosswalk document required  
28 under subdivision (d)(2)(B)(ii)(d)(1) of this section shall be provided to  
29 the division by December 15 of each year.

30                   (B) The division shall certify the  
31 alignments proposed in the crosswalk document required under subdivision  
32 (d)(2)(B)(ii)(d)(1) of this section as eligible to be substitute comparable  
33 elective coursework under this section each year by February 1.

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36                   **APPROVED: 3/9/23**