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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 2157 Session of  
2018

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INTRODUCED BY GROVE, ROEBUCK, SCHLOSSBERG, O'NEILL, RYAN,  
MCGINNIS, CHARLTON, ROTHMAN, STAATS, QUIGLEY, MULLERY,  
HICKERNELL, KEEFER, BERNSTINE, B. MILLER, PHILLIPS-HILL,  
PASHINSKI, DERMODY, HEFFLEY, SOLOMON, RAPP, CUTLER, LEWIS,  
HILL-EVANS, HANNA, HARKINS, D. MILLER AND SAYLOR,  
APRIL 6, 2018

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, APRIL 6, 2018

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AN ACT

1 Amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), entitled "An  
2 act relating to the public school system, including certain  
3 provisions applicable as well to private and parochial  
4 schools; amending, revising, consolidating and changing the  
5 laws relating thereto," in terms and courses of study,  
6 further providing for Commission for Agricultural Education  
7 Excellence; in vocational education, providing for  
8 utilization of credits; and providing for classification of  
9 program code.

10 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
11 hereby enacts as follows:

12 Section 1. Section 1549.1(1) of the act of March 10, 1949  
13 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, is  
14 amended by adding a paragraph to read:

15 Section 1549.1. Commission for Agricultural Education  
16 Excellence.--\* \* \*

17 (1) The commission shall have all the following powers and  
18 duties:

19 \* \* \*

1 (6) Issue guidelines and update the guidelines every five  
2 years to identify the circumstances when a student who  
3 successfully completes an academic course, program or activity  
4 for credit may apply the credit toward completion of an  
5 agriculture education program.

6 \* \* \*

7 Section 2. The act is amended by adding a section to read:

8 Section 1856. Utilization of Credits.--The Department of  
9 Education shall issue guidelines and update the guidelines every  
10 five years to identify the circumstances when a student who  
11 successfully completes a course, program or activity in science,  
12 technology, engineering or mathematics for credit may apply the  
13 credit toward the completion of a course, program or activity  
14 offered by any area vocational-technical school, technical  
15 institute or vocational school or department.

16 Section 3. The act is amended by adding an article to read:

17 ARTICLE XIX-H

18 CLASSIFICATION OF PROGRAM CODE

19 Section 1901-H. Definitions.

20 The following words and phrases when used in this article  
21 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the  
22 context clearly indicates otherwise:

23 "Classification of program code." A numerical coding of  
24 instructional programs developed by the United States Department  
25 of Education used to identify vocational programs.

26 "Department." The Department of Education of the  
27 Commonwealth.

28 "Public school entity." A school district, charter school,  
29 regional charter school, cyber charter school, intermediate unit  
30 or area vocational-technical school.

1 Section 1902-H. Establishment or renewal of classification of  
2 program code.

3 The department shall establish a standard application form  
4 for a public school entity seeking approval to establish or  
5 renew a classification of program code. The form shall be  
6 published on the department's publicly accessible Internet  
7 website. The form shall require the following information:

8 (1) The name of the public school entity seeking  
9 approval to establish or renew a classification of program  
10 code.

11 (2) The title of the classification of program code.

12 (3) The occupational competency area of the  
13 classification of program code.

14 (4) A description of the classification of program code.

15 (5) A list of skills that a student must attain in order  
16 to complete the classification of program code.

17 (6) Evidence of financial support for the classification  
18 of program code from the public school entity.

19 (7) Any additional information that the department deems  
20 necessary to determine whether to approve or disapprove of  
21 the classification of program code.

22 Section 1903-H. Submission of applications.

23 No later than January 31 of each year, a public school entity  
24 may submit the application under section 1902-H to the  
25 department for approval or disapproval of a classification of  
26 program code.

27 Section 1904-H. Notice of approval or denial of applications.

28 (a) Notice.--No later than May 31 of the year the department  
29 receives an application under section 1902-H, the department  
30 shall notify a public school entity which submitted the

1 application whether the department approved or denied the  
2 application.

3 (b) Posting.--No later than June 15 of the year the  
4 department approved the application under subsection (a), the  
5 department shall post the classification of program code on its  
6 publicly accessible Internet website.

7 Section 4. This act shall take effect in 60 days.