WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2020 REGULAR SESSION

ENROLLED

House Bill 4519

By Delegates Espinosa, Hanna, Higginbotham,

ELLINGTON AND MANDT

[Passed March 4, 2020; in effect ninety days from

passage.]

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AN ACT to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto two new sections, designated §5B-2D-8 and §18-2-7e, all relating to partnerships for improving student engagement and preparation in the changing world of work; establishing a summer youth intern pilot program within Department of Commerce; authorizing diverse stakeholder working group and external champions for development and support of future-ready graduate profile for success in occupations and entrepreneurship; suggesting action steps; and suggesting roles for local school improvement councils.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

CHAPTER 5B. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1985.

ARTICLE 2D. WEST VIRGINIA GUARANTEED WORK FORCE PROGRAM.

§5B-2D-8. Summer youth intern pilot program.

A summer youth intern pilot program is established within the Department of Commerce to provide high school students with internship opportunities that allow these youths to explore and prepare for high-demand careers, gain work experience, and develop the life characteristics necessary for success in occupations and entrepreneurship. The Department of Commerce shall work with employers, nonprofit organizations, and educational institutions to provide for the placement of youth in internships primarily in high-demand career fields with a prioritization of offering equitable opportunities for all students. Subject to an appropriation by the Legislature for this purpose, the Department of Commerce may award grants to assist employers with costs of the summer youth intern pilot projects on a competitive basis subject to the following:

(1) The Department of Commerce shall annually issue a request for proposals to the public, specifying the expectations, requirements, and qualifications for the summer youth intern pilot program grant, including, but not limited to, the provision of facilities, programming, staffing, and outcomes; and

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characteristics needed for success; and

success, nurture the whole child, and promote student acquisition of the knowledge, skills, and

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- (3) Provide an opportunity for students to gain valuable experience and skills in a workplace environment while still exploring their interests and abilities.
- (b) A county board may establish a diverse stakeholder working group which may include, but is not limited, to educators from both public and higher education, businesses and business organizations, associations and authorities, families, students, community leaders, and any other stakeholders they may choose. Working with the school system leadership, the purpose of the stakeholder working group is to assist in the development of a succinct profile of a future-ready graduate of the school system containing the knowledge, college and career skills, and life characteristics that they agree are needed for success in occupations and entrepreneurship in the changing world of work. The school system leadership may include the stakeholders in creating visibility and support for their unique, shared vision of a future-ready graduate and in setting the stage for planning and action steps that may be necessary to prepare future-ready graduates. The school system leadership may engage external champions who are committed to the shared vision of a future-ready graduate to help generate community awareness and support for the project and to build strategic partnerships for program implementation. The action steps should include clearly articulating the profile of the future-ready graduate to participating schools, parents and the community, nurturing the whole child, and beginning the development of foundational knowledge, skills, and characteristics beginning in the early years of school, and establishing multiple paths toward college and career readiness for students that include internships, externships, and credentialing.
- (c) Local school improvement councils can play a key role in the implementation of programs at the age appropriate grade levels by engaging the school's business and community partners, including two-year and four-year institutions of higher education, to help develop within students an awareness of the changing world of work and an appreciation of the relevancy of academic subject matter for success in various occupations and entrepreneurship. This may include, but is not limited to, presentations by guest speakers, demonstrations, hands-on creative

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projects, virtual or on-site visits to work places, and internships, externships, and credentialing appropriate for the grade levels of the school to reinforce the competencies students will need for success. Local school improvement councils may exercise their authority pursuant to §18-5A-3 of this code to seek waivers from rules, policies, interpretations, and statutes for plan implementation.

The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that t correctly enrolled.	he foregoing bill is
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Chairman, House Committee	
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President of the S	enate
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day of March	2020.
Kame Le	Lue
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PRESENTED TO THE GOVERNOR

MAR 1.3 2020

2:00 pm