

IN THE SENATE

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 122

BY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

STATING FINDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE AND REQUESTING THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION RESEARCH AND IMPLEMENT NEW HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION PATHWAYS APPROPRIATE FOR COLLEGE-BOUND STUDENTS AND CAREER TECHNICAL STUDENTS.

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

WHEREAS, Idaho high school graduation rates need improvement; and
WHEREAS, current high school graduation requirements are designed specifically for the needs of college-bound students; and

WHEREAS, many students are more interested in applied education found in career technical education pathways; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature is increasingly recognizing the importance of and need for more robust career technical education and skilled workforce training in high school; and

WHEREAS, many career technical skills and training require high levels of hands-on experience and the ability to read and do math in forms other than those appropriate for college-bound students; and

WHEREAS, graduation requirements that meet the needs of career technical students would increase graduation rates and open career doors for many more students; and

WHEREAS, other states allow career technical students various methods of demonstrating mastery and meeting graduation requirements, such as a combination of:

- (1) Math, English, and science credits aligned with their program of study;
- (2) Earning high school credits, college credits, and industry certificates;
- (3) Passing the SAT at a certain level;
- (4) Using the Armed Forces Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB);
- (5) Participating in two or more extracurricular activities, such as FFA or band; or
- (6) Other college and career readiness metrics; and

WHEREAS, qualifying for a high school graduation diploma in either an applied career path or academic path requires demonstration of skills, knowledge, and important personal attributes that would increase the value and importance of an Idaho high school diploma; and

WHEREAS, students should be honored and supported whether they choose a college-bound path, a career technical path, or a combination of both.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the Second Regular Session of the Sixty-fifth Idaho Legislature, the Senate and the House of Representatives concurring therein, that the State Department of Education and the State Board of Education are requested to research and implement new high school graduation pathways that are appropriate for college-bound students

1 and career technical students and that will support and encourage them in
2 reaching their goals. Such pathways should accurately predict future suc-
3 cess.