

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS30181 / S1070

Section 33-1002G, Idaho Code, authorizes school districts and public charter schools to establish career technical schools/centers that qualify for funding appropriated for the specific purpose of supporting the added cost of high-quality career technical schools/centers. To be eligible for this added cost funding, at least 15% of the students attending the career technical school (CTS) must come from a separate high school. In recent years, school districts in rural areas have expressed difficulty in being able to recruit 15% of the CTS students from other high schools during the initial startup years when they are reliant on high school students from neighboring school districts or charter schools. The proposed amendments would allow new schools/centers to be eligible with an initial student enrollment where 5% of the students come from a separate high school, increasing each year by 5% until they reach the current 15% requirement. Additional changes would allow for existing programs, with approval from the Division of Career Technical Education, to use a three-year rolling average to calculate the 15% requirement. This flexibility would allow an established program to continue to receive the CTS added cost funding even if they saw a fluctuation in a single year in the 15% student enrollment requirement as long as the three-year rolling average met the requirement. One additional area being addressed is in response to the transportation challenges in rural areas where students may have to travel for an hour each way to participate in a career technical education (CTE) program in a neighboring district. In these instances, a parent may choose to enroll the student full time at the high school with the CTE program, when this happens, they are then counted as that high school's student and are not able to be used to meet the 15% requirement. The amendment to address this issue would allow for these students to be counted the same as homeschooled students who reside in a neighboring school districts attendance area are counted.

FISCAL NOTE

There would be no additional fiscal impact to the state general fund. Currently, career technical school added cost funding is based on an annual set appropriation. That annual appropriation is then distributed to the eligible career technical schools on a student enrollment basis pursuant to IDAPA 55.01.03.

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DISCLAIMER: This statement of purpose and fiscal note are a mere attachment to this bill and prepared by a proponent of the bill. It is neither intended as an expression of legislative intent nor intended for any use outside of the legislative process, including judicial review (Joint Rule 18).