



FLOOR AMENDMENT NO. _____

BY: Ashby

1 Amend C.S.H.B. 4 (house committee report) by adding the
2 following appropriately numbered SECTIONS to the bill and
3 renumbering subsequent SECTIONS of the bill accordingly:

4 SECTION _____. Subchapter C, Chapter 39, Education Code, is
5 amended by adding Section 39.0531 to read as follows:

6 Sec. 39.0531. INDUSTRY CERTIFICATION LIST. (a) The
7 agency, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, and Texas
8 Workforce Commission shall jointly develop and make available a
9 list of industry certifications that are eligible for purposes of
10 Section 39.053(c)(1)(B)(v). In developing the list, the agencies
11 shall:

12 (1) adhere to the requirements for inclusion in the
13 credential library established under Section 2308A.007, Government
14 Code; and

15 (2) consider the inventory of industry-recognized
16 certifications developed under Section 312.003, Labor Code.

17 (b) The industry certifications included in the list under
18 Subsection (a) must:

19 (1) be aligned to a program of study that, according to
20 labor market data, prepares students for high-wage, high-skill,
21 in-demand occupations;

22 (2) allow students to demonstrate mastery of the
23 skills required for occupations within an approved program of
24 study; and

25 (3) be obtained through an assessment of the knowledge
26 and skills provided by or determined by an independent, third-party
27 certifying entity using predetermined standards for knowledge,
28 skills, and competencies.

29 (c) The agency, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board,

1 and Texas Workforce Commission shall regularly review and, if
2 necessary, update the eligibility of industry certifications under
3 Subsection (a), including whether the programs of study for those
4 certifications still meet the requirements under that subsection:

5 (1) in consultation with the advisory council
6 established under Chapter 312, Labor Code; and

7 (2) to the extent practicable, concurrently with the
8 modification of performance standards under Section 39.053(f-1).

9 (d) If, after reviewing an industry certification under
10 Subsection (c), the agency, Texas Higher Education Coordinating
11 Board, and Texas Workforce Commission jointly determine the
12 certification is no longer eligible for purposes of Section
13 39.053(c)(1)(B)(v) and should be removed from the list maintained
14 under Subsection (a), the agencies shall, to the extent
15 practicable, post on the agencies' respective Internet websites
16 information regarding the removal of the certification not later
17 than two years before the date the agencies intend to remove the
18 certification from the list.

19 (e) During the three years following a determination under
20 Subsection (d) that an industry certification is no longer eligible
21 for purposes of Section 39.053(c)(1)(B)(v), a school district may
22 receive the benefit of achievement indicators based on that
23 industry certification for purposes of Section 39.053(c) only for a
24 cohort of students who:

25 (1) were participating in the program of study aligned
26 with that certification during the school year the agency
27 determines the certification is no longer eligible; and

28 (2) earn the certification within the three-year
29 period.

30 SECTION _____. Section 2308A.007, Government Code, is
31 amended to read as follows:

1 Sec. 2308A.007. CREDENTIAL LIBRARY. (a) The coordinating
2 board and the commission jointly shall ~~[may]~~ establish a publicly
3 accessible web-based library of credentials, such as diplomas,
4 certificates, certifications, digital badges, apprenticeships,
5 licenses, or degrees, that are:

6 (1) delivered, issued, funded, or governed by the
7 state;

8 (2) aligned with recognized skills and industry
9 standards;

10 (3) available to residents of the state; and

11 (4) used by employers in the state.

12 (a-1) The [A] credential library established under this
13 section must:

14 (1) include:

15 (A) the information included in the electronic
16 tools or platforms developed by the coordinating board under
17 Section 61.09022(a), Education Code; and

18 (B) the list of industry certifications
19 developed under Section 39.0531, Education Code; and

20 (2) ensure data interoperability between relevant
21 state agencies.

22 (b) The coordinating board and the commission jointly shall
23 ~~[may]~~ designate a host agency to contract with an experienced and
24 recognized third-party vendor ~~[or operating entity]~~ for the [a]
25 credential library established under this section.

26 (c) In establishing the [a] credential library under this
27 section, the coordinating board and the commission shall solicit
28 input from the agency and relevant stakeholders.