

## Testimony for HB1163

Rep. David Monson

District 19

Good morning Chairman Heinert and members of the House Education Committee. For the record I am Rep. David Monson from District 19 in far northeastern ND. I apologize to your clerk for missing the deadline of 8:00 to submit written testimony. I had it complete and was ready to push the button when someone came by my desk to talk to me. I pushed the button at 8:00 but it was too late, so you get a paper copy now.

I put this bill in for one of my constituents, a guidance counselor from Park River High School. He suggested this idea to me two years ago, but it was too late to get it in the stream at that time. When I was talking to him earlier this fall he suggested we try it again, so this is the first version. Since that time, he has suggested a cleaner version that you may consider. We are open to amending this bill if you deem it wise or necessary. I have attached his email and ideas on a revision. In any case it is time to have a good discussion on this idea. With the shortage of workers in ND, especially in areas of CTE concentration, it would be wise to keep our students following a CTE path through high school and into our colleges, universities, and the workforce. I'm not sure if Kevin is online or not. If he is it would be good to hear directly from him. I really respect Kevin as a veteran guidance counselor who worked for me in one of my schools many years ago.

I would be happy to answer any questions you may have. Thank you for your time and consideration of this idea.

**Monson, David C.**

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**From:** , KLS <[kevin.skavhaug@parkriverk12.com](mailto:kevin.skavhaug@parkriverk12.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 23, 2023 4:14 PM  
**To:** Monson, David C.  
**Subject:** Re: Your bill is up tomorrow - CTE pathway

just one last thing... the curriculum for English 12 is British Lit. Shakespeare, Beowulf etc. plus writing a research paper. not many of the kids who are seeking a CTE diploma are really going to be using that information in their lifetimes... we're talking plumbers, welders, xray techs, dental hygienists, automotive technicians... makes way more sense to me to have them taking CTE courses than reading A Midsummers Night Dream. :)

On Mon, Jan 23, 2023 at 4:00 PM, KLS <[kevin.skavhaug@parkriverk12.com](mailto:kevin.skavhaug@parkriverk12.com)> wrote:

Hi Dave, well my goal was just to create a new pathway to get a high school diploma with CTE credits versus College Prep Classes..So yes, this may be easier but in reality, all this diploma path does is replace Senior English (thesis paper focused) and World History as requirements for graduation. Those two classes would be replaced by CTE courses.

My revised version would make it more clear and do away with a lot of the verbage that was in the original. Ill attach the updated version which is much cleaner and easier to understand...Again, thanks so much for taking the time to look and work with this. (Also, when reading through the finalized bill that was on the legis site, I did notice one issue under section g, part h (page 4)...it looks like it would require one unit of fine arts, or one unit of foreign language or one unit of nat. am language... that was not my intent to make those "requireds" but i may be reading it wrong. I would strike out requirement "h".

Again, my sole intent is to get to the kids that are dropping out of high school who struggle in the college prep courses or are not interested in the traditional college prep path and give them an option to gain a diploma with classes they are interested in and skilled in...i.e. CTE classes. If others in the legis have another idea on how to get there (CTE pathway to a diploma), that is great... I just wanted to get the ball rolling.

see my simplified version attached which I like much better thanks again, Kevin

On Mon, Jan 23, 2023 at 2:18 PM Monson, David C. <[dmonson@ndlegis.gov](mailto:dmonson@ndlegis.gov)> wrote:

You indicated you may want to have an amendment I think. I'm so far behind on my emails I may have missed it. Some people think this path is too easy. Any ideas?

Rep. David Monson

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## CTE Pathway Option for a Standard High School Diploma

Beginning in the year \_\_\_\_\_, a student may earn a standard high school diploma through the Career and Technical Education pathway option.

To earn a standard high school diploma through this pathway option, a student must:

- Successfully complete a minimum of 21 credits
- Have a minimum, cumulative GPA of at least 1.666 (C-) on a 4.0 Scale
- Meet the requirements of
  - 3 credits of English (9-10-11)
  - 3 credits of Math (Business/Consumer or Applied Math, General Math, Alg 1, Geometry or other math listed in ND High school course codes)
  - 2 credits of Social Science (US History and POD/American Gov't)
  - 2 credits of Science
  - 2 credits within a CTE Coordinated Plan of Study
  - 1 credit in CTE Work Based Learning (School to Work/Cooperative Work Experience)
  - 3 other credits within CTE
    - 1 credit of Fine Arts, Foreign Language, Native American Language may substitute
  - 1 credit of Phy-Ed or .5 credits of Phy-Ed and .5 credits of Health
  - 4 credits of any other elective.
    - Note: 1 credit can be earned for gaining an industry certification from one a CTE program/course
  - \*Earn at least a 5 on all three components of the Work Keys Test or a 22 composite on the ACT test.

If the student fails to meet any of the above qualifications, he/she may still gain either the Standard or Alternate North Dakota High School diploma in accordance to those guidelines.