

SESSION OF 2023

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 2060**

As Recommended by Senate Committee on
Education

Brief*

Senate Sub. for HB 2060 would make technical changes to law relating to the Drivers' Training School License Act to ensure community colleges and other institutions receive payments from the State Safety Fund. The bill would also authorize several items that qualified students must be provided reasonable access to under the AO-K to Work Program. In addition, the bill would amend law to include individuals who receive a high school equivalency (HSE) credential, or who are pursuing an HSE credential, in the calculation of and subsequent distribution of performance-based payments for community colleges and technical colleges.

Drivers' Training School License Act

The bill would make technical changes to the Drivers' Training School License Act to ensure that community colleges, rather than students enrolled in community colleges, receive payments from the State Safety Fund for the number of students who have completed a driver training course during the past school year.

*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.kslegislature.org>

AO-K to Work Program

Under current law, the State Board of Regents award an HSE credential to qualified students who, among other factors, successfully complete an approved AO-K career pathway and receive the industry-recognized credential appropriate to the completed pathway. Students are to be provided reasonable access to all available student resources of the adult education program, the participating technical or community college, and the appropriate community partners.

The bill would add several items to the available student resources that qualified students must be provided reasonable access to, including books, tools, and personal materials required to participate in an AO-K career pathway program and industry examinations.

The bill would also provide for financial assistance for books, tools, personal materials, and industry examinations. The financial assistance provided would be the aggregate amount of the cost of books, tools, personal materials, and industry examinations for the AO-K career pathway program in which the student is enrolled and receiving assistance, minus the aggregate amount of all other aid awarded to the student. The financial assistance would be subject to appropriations, and the amount of financial assistance provided for each student could not exceed \$500.

High School Equivalency Credential

Under current law, the State Board of Regents distributes incentive payments to each community college and technical college for individuals who have received a General Educational Development (GED) credential or who are pursuing a GED while enrolled in an eligible career technical education program.

The bill would require the State Board of Regents to distribute incentive payments to community colleges and

technical colleges for individuals who have received a GED or HSE credential or who are pursuing a GED or an HSE credential while enrolled in an eligible career technical education program.

[*Note:* According to the State Board of Regents, a GED credential is issued after the successful completion of the GED examination, a four-subject high school equivalency test. A HSE credential is issued after successful completion of the Kansas Pathway to Career High School Equivalency program, which allows a student who is at least 21 years old to work toward their high school completion as well as obtain a college certificate or credential.]

Background

The Senate Committee on Education recommended a substitute bill that included provisions originally contained in SB 84 (providing for HSE credentials) and provisions relating to the AO-K to Work Program and the Drivers' Training School License Act. The original provisions of HB 2060 were removed from the bill. [*Note:* HB 2060, as passed by the House, would have established the Special Education and Related Services Funding Task Force.]

SB 84

The bill was introduced by the Senate Committee on Education at the request of a representative of the State Board of Regents.

Senate Committee on Education

In the Senate Committee hearing, a representative of the State Board of Regents testified as a **proponent** of the bill, stating that although the 2019 Legislature amended state law to recognize the HSE credential option in addition to the GED option, the legislation did not include the performance-

based incentives. According to the proponent, the bill to amend the statute would maintain consistency and would allow the State Board of Regents to include the HSE credential when calculating institutions' performance-based incentive payments.

No other testimony was provided.

The Senate Committee removed the contents of HB 2060 and inserted the provisions of SB 84. The Senate Committee further amended the bill by inserting provisions regarding the AO-K to Work Program and the Drivers' Training School License Act. The Senate Committee then recommended a substitute bill.

Fiscal Information

SB 84

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on SB 84, as introduced, the State Board of Regents indicates that enactment of the bill would have a negligible fiscal effect for incentive payments made to community colleges and technical colleges.

An updated fiscal note on the substitute bill was not immediately available.

Any fiscal effect associated with the bill is not reflected in *The FY 2024 Governor's Budget Report*.

Postsecondary educational institutions; high school equivalency credentials; general educational development; AO-K; driver training