

PROPOSED

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AMENDMENTS TO H.B. 2123

(Reference to printed bill)

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert:

2 "Section 1. Title 15, chapter 2, article 1, Arizona Revised  
3 Statutes, is amended by adding section 15-217, to read:

4 15-217. Adult workforce diploma program; fund; program  
5 providers; requirements; annual report; definitions

6 A. THE ADULT WORKFORCE DIPLOMA PROGRAM IS ESTABLISHED WITHIN THE  
7 STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO ASSIST A PERSON WHO IS AT LEAST TWENTY-ONE  
8 YEARS OF AGE IN EARNING A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA AND DEVELOPING CRITICAL  
9 EMPLOYABILITY AND CAREER AND TECHNICAL SKILLS TO PREPARE THE PERSON FOR  
10 EMPLOYMENT. THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL OPERATE THE PROGRAM IN  
11 COOPERATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION. THE PROGRAM MAY BE DELIVERED  
12 IN A CAMPUS-BASED, ONLINE OR BLENDED MODALITY.

13 B. THE ADULT WORKFORCE DIPLOMA PROGRAM FUND IS ESTABLISHED  
14 CONSISTING OF LEGISLATIVE APPROPRIATIONS, GIFTS, GRANTS AND OTHER  
15 DONATIONS. THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL ADMINISTER THE FUND. MONIES  
16 IN THE FUND ARE CONTINUOUSLY APPROPRIATED.

17 C. ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 15 OF EACH YEAR, THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
18 SHALL ISSUE A REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR ELIGIBLE PROGRAM PROVIDERS TO  
19 PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM. TO BE APPROVED, A PROGRAM PROVIDER MUST MEET  
20 ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

21 1. BE OPERATING A REGIONALLY ACCREDITED HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA-GRANTING  
22 ENTITY.

1           2. HAVE THE ABILITY TO DEVELOP A LEARNING PLAN FOR EACH STUDENT THAT  
2 INTEGRATES GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS AND CAREER GOALS.

3           3. REQUIRE COURSEWORK FOR EACH STUDENT THAT FULFILLS GRADUATION  
4 REQUIREMENTS AND LEADS TO AN INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED CREDENTIAL.

5           4. PROVIDE A COURSE CATALOG THAT INCLUDES ALL COURSES THAT ARE  
6 NECESSARY TO MEET GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS.

7           5. HAVE THE ABILITY TO PROVIDE ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

8           (a) REMEDIATION OPPORTUNITIES IN LITERACY AND NUMERACY.

9           (b) CAREER PATHWAYS COURSEWORK.

10          (c) INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED CREDENTIALS AND STACKABLE CREDENTIALS.

11          (d) CAREER PLACEMENT SERVICES.

12          (e) ACADEMIC SKILL INTAKE ASSESSMENTS AND TRANSCRIPT EVALUATIONS.

13          D. ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 15 OF EACH YEAR, THE STATE BOARD OF  
14 EDUCATION, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, SHALL APPROVE  
15 ALL QUALIFIED PROGRAM PROVIDERS AND PLACE THOSE PROVIDERS ON AN APPROVED  
16 PROGRAM PROVIDERS LIST. APPROVED PROGRAM PROVIDERS SHALL BEGIN ENROLLING  
17 STUDENTS ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 15 OF EACH YEAR. APPROVED PROGRAM PROVIDERS  
18 MAINTAIN APPROVAL STATUS UNLESS THE APPROVED PROGRAM PROVIDER IS REMOVED  
19 FROM THE APPROVED PROGRAM PROVIDERS LIST PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION J OF THIS  
20 SECTION.

21          E. ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2024, THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, IN  
22 CONSULTATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, SHALL ADOPT BOTH OF THE  
23 FOLLOWING:

24           1. PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS TO EVALUATE PROGRAM PROVIDERS. THE  
25 PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS SHALL INCLUDE MEASUREMENTS OF STUDENT PROGRESS  
26 TOWARD EARNING A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA, THE GRADUATION RATES OF STUDENTS  
27 EARNING AT LEAST ONE ACADEMIC CREDIT, THE NUMBER OF INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED  
28 CREDENTIALS EARNED, THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS WHO HAVE NEWLY ACQUIRED  
29 PROFICIENCY IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE, THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS OR GRADUATES  
30 WHO HAVE MATRICULATED AT AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER LEARNING OR POSTSECONDARY  
31 EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION, THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS OR GRADUATES WHO HAVE NEWLY

1 ACQUIRED EMPLOYMENT AT A WAGE THAT IS AT LEAST ONE HUNDRED FIFTY PERCENT OF  
2 THE STATE MINIMUM WAGE AND OTHER RELEVANT MEASURES AS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD.

3 2. AN ADULT EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE PERFORMANCE FUNDING MODEL. AT  
4 LEAST HALF OF TOTAL MONIES PROVIDED TO AN APPROVED PROGRAM PROVIDER SHALL  
5 BE BASED ON THE AVERAGE PERFORMANCE OF THE PROVIDER IN THE PRIOR TWO FISCAL  
6 YEARS. THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL CONSIDER ALL PERFORMANCE  
7 EXPECTATIONS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 1 OF THIS SUBSECTION, EXCEPT  
8 THAT ENROLLMENT MAY NOT BE CONSIDERED.

9 F. APPROVED PROGRAM PROVIDERS SHALL BE FUNDED AS FOLLOWS:

10 1. FOR FISCAL YEARS 2022-2023 AND 2023-2024, THE DEPARTMENT OF  
11 EDUCATION SHALL PAY APPROVED PROGRAM PROVIDERS THE FOLLOWING AMOUNTS FOR  
12 EACH STUDENT WHO COMPLETES THE FOLLOWING MILESTONES:

13 (a) \$250 FOR EACH COMPLETED HALF UNIT OF HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT.

14 (b) \$250 FOR EACH EARNED INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED CREDENTIAL OR STACKABLE  
15 CREDENTIAL THAT REQUIRES NOT MORE THAN FIFTY HOURS OF TRAINING.

16 (c) \$500 FOR EACH EARNED INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED CREDENTIAL OR STACKABLE  
17 CREDENTIAL THAT REQUIRES AT LEAST FIFTY HOURS BUT NOT MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED  
18 HOURS OF TRAINING.

19 (d) \$750 FOR EACH EARNED INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED CREDENTIAL OR STACKABLE  
20 CREDENTIAL THAT REQUIRES MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED HOURS OF TRAINING.

21 (e) \$1,000 FOR EACH EARNED HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA.

22 2. FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 AND EACH FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER, AN  
23 APPROVED PROGRAM PROVIDER SHALL RECEIVE FUNDING PURSUANT TO THE ADULT  
24 EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE PERFORMANCE FUNDING MODEL ADOPTED BY STATE BOARD OF  
25 EDUCATION, SUBJECT TO LEGISLATIVE APPROPRIATION.

26 G. FOR FISCAL YEARS 2022-2023 AND 2023-2024, APPROVED PROGRAM  
27 PROVIDERS SHALL SUBMIT MONTHLY INVOICES TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION NOT  
28 LATER THAN THE TENTH CALENDAR DAY OF EACH MONTH FOR MILESTONES MET IN THE  
29 PREVIOUS CALENDAR MONTH. THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL PAY APPROVED  
30 PROGRAM PROVIDERS IN THE ORDER IN WHICH INVOICES ARE SUBMITTED UNTIL ALL  
31 AVAILABLE MONIES ARE EXHAUSTED. THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SHALL PROVIDE  
32 A WRITTEN UPDATE TO THE APPROVED PROGRAM PROVIDERS ON OR BEFORE THE LAST

1 CALENDAR DAY OF EACH MONTH, INCLUDING THE AGGREGATE TOTAL DOLLARS THAT HAVE  
2 BEEN PAID TO APPROVED PROGRAM PROVIDERS TO DATE AND THE ESTIMATED NUMBER OF  
3 ENROLLMENTS STILL AVAILABLE FOR THE PROGRAM YEAR.

4 H. ON OR BEFORE JULY 15 OF EACH YEAR, EACH APPROVED PROGRAM PROVIDER  
5 SHALL REPORT THE FOLLOWING TO THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION:

6 1. THE TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS WHO WERE FUNDED THROUGH THE PROGRAM.

7 2. THE TOTAL NUMBER OF EARNED CREDITS.

8 3. THE TOTAL NUMBER OF EARNED INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED CREDENTIALS OR  
9 STACKABLE CREDENTIALS EARNED FOR EACH TIER OF FUNDING.

10 4. THE TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS WHO GRADUATED THROUGH THE PROGRAM.

11 5. THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS WHO HAVE NEWLY ACQUIRED PROFICIENCY IN THE  
12 ENGLISH LANGUAGE.

13 6. THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS OR GRADUATES WHO HAVE MATRICULATED IN AN  
14 INSTITUTION OF HIGHER LEARNING OR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION.

15 7. THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS OR GRADUATES WHO HAVE NEWLY ACQUIRED  
16 EMPLOYMENT AT A WAGE THAT IS AT LEAST ONE HUNDRED FIFTY PERCENT OF THE  
17 STATE MINIMUM WAGE.

18 I. BEGINNING WITH THE END OF THE SECOND FISCAL YEAR OF THE PROGRAM,  
19 THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, IN COOPERATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF  
20 EDUCATION, SHALL REVIEW DATA FROM EACH APPROVED PROGRAM PROVIDER TO ENSURE  
21 THAT EACH APPROVED PROGRAM PROVIDER IS ACHIEVING MINIMUM PROGRAM  
22 PERFORMANCE STANDARDS, INCLUDING:

23 1. A GRADUATION RATE OF AT LEAST FIFTY PERCENT.

24 2. AN AVERAGE COST PER GRADUATE OF \$7,000 OR LESS.

25 J. THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, IN COOPERATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT  
26 OF EDUCATION, SHALL PLACE AN APPROVED PROGRAM PROVIDER THAT DOES NOT MEET  
27 THE MINIMUM PROGRAM PERFORMANCE STANDARDS PRESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION I OF  
28 THIS SECTION ON PROBATIONARY STATUS FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE FISCAL YEAR.  
29 AN APPROVED PROGRAM PROVIDER THAT DOES NOT MEET THE MINIMUM PERFORMANCE  
30 STANDARDS FOR TWO CONSECUTIVE YEARS SHALL BE REMOVED FROM THE APPROVED  
31 PROGRAM PROVIDERS LIST.

1 K. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION:

2 1. "ACADEMIC SKILL INTAKE ASSESSMENT" MEANS A CRITERION-REFERENCED  
3 ASSESSMENT OF NUMERACY AND LITERACY SKILLS WITH HIGH RELIABILITY AND  
4 VALIDITY THAT IS DETERMINED BY THIRD-PARTY RESEARCH AND THAT MAY BE  
5 ADMINISTERED IN PERSON OR ONLINE.

6 2. "ACCREDITED PROVIDER" MEANS AN ENTITY THAT IS CURRENTLY  
7 ACCREDITED BY ONE OF THE SEVEN REGIONAL ACCREDITATION ORGANIZATIONS OR ANY  
8 SUCCESSOR ENTITY.

9 3. "APPROVED PROGRAM PROVIDER" MEANS A PUBLIC, NONPROFIT OR OTHER  
10 ENTITY THAT MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION AND THAT DOES NOT  
11 RECEIVE FEDERAL OR STATE FUNDING OR PRIVATE TUITION FOR A STUDENT WHO IS  
12 FUNDED THROUGH THE PROGRAM.

13 4. "AVERAGE COST PER GRADUATE" MEANS THE AMOUNT THAT IS CALCULATED  
14 BY DIVIDING THE TOTAL PROGRAM FUNDING THAT IS REIMBURSED TO AN APPROVED  
15 PROGRAM PROVIDER FOR A FISCAL YEAR COHORT BY THE TOTAL NUMBER OF GRADUATES  
16 FOR THAT FISCAL YEAR COHORT.

17 5. "CAREER PATHWAYS COURSEWORK" MEANS ONE OR MORE COURSES THAT ALIGN  
18 WITH THE SKILL NEEDS OF INDUSTRIES IN THE ECONOMY OF THIS STATE OR REGION  
19 AND THAT ASSIST AN INDIVIDUAL TO ENTER OR ADVANCE WITHIN A SPECIFIC  
20 OCCUPATION OR OCCUPATIONAL CLUSTER.

21 6. "CAREER PLACEMENT SERVICES" MEANS SERVICES THAT ARE DESIGNED TO  
22 ASSIST STUDENTS IN OBTAINING EMPLOYMENT, INCLUDING CAREER INTEREST  
23 SELF-ASSESSMENTS, JOB SEARCH SKILLS, RÉSUMÉ DEVELOPMENT AND MOCK  
24 INTERVIEWS.

25 7. "COHORT" MEANS THE STUDENTS WHO ENTER THE PROGRAM BETWEEN JULY 1  
26 AND JUNE 30 OF EACH PROGRAM YEAR.

27 8. "GRADUATE" MEANS A STUDENT WHO HAS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED ALL  
28 STATE AND APPROVED PROGRAM PROVIDER REQUIREMENTS TO EARN A HIGH SCHOOL  
29 DIPLOMA.

30 9. "GRADUATION RATE" MEANS THE TOTAL NUMBER OF GRADUATES FROM A  
31 COHORT DIVIDED BY THE TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS.

1           10. "GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS" MEANS COURSE AND CREDIT REQUIREMENTS  
2 FOR THE APPROVED PROGRAM PROVIDER'S HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA.

3           11. "HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA" MEANS A DIPLOMA THAT IS ISSUED BY AN  
4 ACCREDITED PROVIDER AND THAT IS RECOGNIZED AS A SECONDARY SCHOOL DIPLOMA BY  
5 THIS STATE.

6           12. "INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED CREDENTIAL" MEANS AN EDUCATION-RELATED OR  
7 WORK-RELATED CREDENTIAL THAT VERIFIES AN INDIVIDUAL'S QUALIFICATION OR  
8 COMPETENCE AND THAT IS ISSUED BY A THIRD PARTY WITH THE RELEVANT AUTHORITY  
9 TO ISSUE THE CREDENTIAL.

10           13. "LEARNING PLAN" MEANS A DOCUMENTED PLAN THAT BOTH:

11           (a) IS DESIGNED TO PREPARE A STUDENT TO SUCCEED IN THE PROGRAM AND  
12 THE STUDENT'S FUTURE ENDEAVORS.

13           (b) IDENTIFIES THE COURSES AND CREDITS THAT ARE NEEDED FOR A STUDENT  
14 TO COMPLETE THE PROGRAM AND THAT ARE APPROVED PROGRAM PROVIDER GRADUATION  
15 REQUIREMENTS.

16           14. "MILESTONES" MEANS OBJECTIVE MEASURES OF PROGRESS FOR WHICH  
17 PAYMENT IS MADE TO AN APPROVED PROGRAM PROVIDER UNDER THIS SECTION,  
18 INCLUDING EARNED UNITS OF HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT, EARNED INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED  
19 CREDENTIALS AND EARNED HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMAS.

20           15. "PROGRAM" MEANS THE ADULT WORKFORCE DIPLOMA PROGRAM.

21           16. "REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS" MEANS A REQUEST FOR INTERESTED  
22 POTENTIAL PROGRAM PROVIDERS TO SUBMIT EVIDENCE THAT THEY MEET THE  
23 QUALIFICATIONS PRESCRIBED BY THIS SECTION.

24           17. "STACKABLE CREDENTIAL" MEANS A THIRD-PARTY CREDENTIAL THAT IS  
25 PART OF A SEQUENCE OF CREDENTIALS THAT CAN BE ACCUMULATED OVER TIME TO  
26 BUILD UP AN INDIVIDUAL'S QUALIFICATIONS TO ADVANCE ALONG A CAREER PATHWAY.

27           18. "STUDENT" MEANS A PARTICIPANT IN THE PROGRAM WHO IS AT LEAST  
28 TWENTY-ONE YEARS OF AGE, WHO IS A RESIDENT OF THIS STATE AND WHO HAS NOT  
29 EARNED A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA.

1           19. "TRANSCRIPT EVALUATION" MEANS A DOCUMENTED SUMMARY OF CREDITS  
2           THAT WERE EARNED IN PREVIOUS PUBLIC OR PRIVATE ACCREDITED HIGH SCHOOLS  
3           COMPARED WITH PROGRAM AND APPROVED PROGRAM PROVIDER GRADUATION  
4           REQUIREMENTS.

5           20. "UNIT OF HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT" MEANS A CREDIT THAT IS AWARDED  
6           BASED ON A STUDENT'S DEMONSTRATION THAT THE STUDENT HAS SUCCESSFULLY MET  
7           THE CONTENT EXPECTATIONS FOR THE CREDIT AREA AS DEFINED BY SUBJECT AREA  
8           STANDARDS, EXPECTATIONS OR GUIDELINES.

9           Sec. 2. Appropriations; adult workforce diploma program fund

10           The sum of \$6,000,000 is appropriated from the state general fund in  
11           each of fiscal years 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 to the adult workforce diploma  
12           program fund established by section 15-217, Arizona Revised Statutes, as  
13           added by this act."

14 Amend title to conform

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02:46 PM  
C: HN