

One Hundred Second Legislature - Second Session - 2012

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB1144

Chairperson: Senator Greg Adams

Committee: Education

Date of Hearing: January 30, 2012

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

Legislative Bill 1144 would allow for the establishment of career academy schools in across the state. Any school district could establish a career academy school or partner with another school district, an educational service unit, a learning community, a community college or a private entity to do so. The curriculum in such schools would focus on mathematics, science and technology and would serve students in grades seven through twelve. The career academies would provide an alternative educational program for students who are not planning to go to college or might otherwise drop out of school. The critical age for reaching these kids and this potential work force is seventh grade as dropouts increase dramatically between seventh and ninth grade. There are workforce needs in the state that require an early focus on vocational training and this bill would put a legislative stamp of approval to address such needs and help young people find meaningful careers without getting a college degree.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Brad Ashford