

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**CARRIER:**

Senate Committee on Workforce

REVENUE: No revenue impact**FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, statement not yet issued****SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO:****Action:****Vote:****Yeas:****Nays:****Exc.:****Prepared By:** Matthew Germer, Administrator**Meeting Dates:** 3/11, 3/23, 4/8

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Establishes Task Force on 21st Century Apprenticeship with 14 members appointed by Governor and both jointly and separately by President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives according to certain criteria. Requires Task Force to study, evaluate, and make recommendations on matters relating to apprenticeships. Sunsets December 31, 2016. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Prior task force on apprenticeship
- Need for CTE investment
- Task force diversity
- Transferability of students' technical skills

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

(-1) Adds two community college apprenticeship program employees, including at least one faculty member. Requires that two members work or reside in rural areas of the state. Modifies goals of the task force.

BACKGROUND: Apprenticeships are occupational career training that combines supervised on-the-job training experience with classroom instruction. Apprentices usually begin at half the salary of certified “journey” workers. Apprenticeship committees, made up of employee and employer representatives, operate apprenticeship programs. The waiting period for apprenticeships may last up to two years and is a highly competitive process. If a candidate is qualified, the candidate is added to a pool of eligible. As apprenticeship vacancies become available, candidates are selected from the pool. Typically, apprenticeships last two to five years, depending on industry requirements.

Senate Bill 598 would create a Task Force comprised of legislators, contractors, labor representatives, and agency representatives to evaluate and recommend apprenticeship policies.