

To: Rep. Doherty, Chair, House Education Committee
RE: HB 2263
From: Council of Instructional Administrators (CIA)
Prepared by: Kendra Cawley, Chair, CIA
Date: February 25, 2019

Representative Doherty and members of the House Education Committee, the Council of Instructional Administrators (CIA) in general supports this legislation, with the exception of the italicized phrase below:

"(6) Accelerated college credit program courses funded by a grant distributed under this section must comply with any standards developed to *ensure that credits earned for the course transfer to any public post-secondary institution of education in the state as if the credits were earned at that institution.*"

While the spirit of this section, affirming that grants should go to programs that are in compliance with the state standards, is absolutely appropriate, the italicized phrase is problematic for two reasons.

First, the standards were developed to ensure the quality of dual accelerated learning programs, increasing the likelihood that they would be accepted in transfer across the state, but the standards do not ensure it. In fact, there is nothing in the standards that ensures transfer, and for Assessment Based Learning, it is explicitly the responsibility of the receiving institution to determine

Second, it is not clear what "that institution" is. It suggests that transferred courses are supposed to look as though they were earned at the receiving institution, since that is the only "institution" mentioned in this section. Colleges and universities cannot make credits earned at another institution appear to have been earned at our institution – they are noted as credits transferred in by the receiving institution, recognizing the credit as being earned at the awarding institution.

Overall, this phrase seems to suggest a new requirement that it really doesn't, and if left in, would create confusion about what the law does or does not require. If transferability is a goal for all accelerated learning, it should be proposed separately, possibly as an amendment to the legislation that established the state Accelerated Learning standards initially.

For this Bill, if the idealized phrase above could be replaced by "*ensure the quality of the dual credit program,*" it would be correct and appropriate to this bill, which is fundamentally about the awarding of grants to support quality partnerships.