

- SUBJECT:** Incorporating technology applications courses in certain curricula
- COMMITTEE:** Public Education — committee substitute recommended
- VOTE:** 13 ayes — Huberty, Bernal, Allen, Allison, Ashby, K. Bell, Dutton, M. González, K. King, Meyer, Sanford, Talarico, VanDeaver
- 0 nays
- WITNESSES:** For — Dana Harris, Austin Chamber of Commerce; Alexis Harrigan, Code.org; Carol Fletcher, Pflugerville ISD; John Kelso; (*Registered, but did not testify*: Jennifer Rodriguez, Apple, Inc.; Jon Fisher, Associated Builders and Contractors of Texas; Robin Painovich, Career and Technical Association of Texas; Dana Chiodo, CompTIA; Priscilla Camacho, Dallas Regional Chamber; Deborah Caldwell, North East ISD; Jay Barksdale, Plano ISD; Allison Brooks, Project Lead the Way; Caroline Joiner, Rackspace; Seth Rau, San Antonio ISD; David Edmonson, TechNet; Mike Meroney, Texas Association of Manufacturers; Jennifer Bergland, Texas Computer Education Association; Shannon Noble, Texas Industrial Vocational Association; Chris Frandsen, Texas League Of Women Voters; Kyle Ward, Texas PTA; Dee Carney, Texas School Alliance; Christy Rome, Texas School Coalition; Lisa Dawn-Fisher, Texas State Teachers Association; Jarod Love, The College Board)
- Against — None
- On — (*Registered, but did not testify*: Monica Martinez, Texas Education Agency)
- BACKGROUND:** With increased need for skilled technology workers, some have noted the need to incorporate technology applications courses into the career and technical education course curriculum.
- DIGEST:** HB 963 would require the State Board of Education to review the essential knowledge and skills of the career and technology and

technology applications curriculums. The board would have to amend its rules to consolidate the technology applications courses for grades 9 through 12 with the career and technical education courses and eliminate duplicative courses while ensuring certifications were aligned with the rigor of each individual course. The review and rules amendments would have to be completed by March 1, 2020.

The bill would take immediate effect if finally passed by a two-thirds record vote of the membership of each house. Otherwise, it would take effect September 1, 2019.

NOTES:

According to the Legislative Budget Board, the bill would have a negative impact of about \$7 million to general revenue related funds through fiscal 2020-21.