

HB 2177 - DIGEST

(SUBSTITUTED FOR - SEE 2ND SUB)

Creates the rural county high employer demand jobs program to: (1) Assist students in obtaining local jobs by earning certificates, associate degrees, or other industry-recognized credentials in high employer demand fields; and

(2) Provide student tuition and required fees for up to forty-five credits or the equivalent of one year of full-time study at a community or technical college located in an eligible county.

Requires the state board for community and technical colleges or the community or technical college located in an eligible county to identify high employer demand fields.

Authorizes the board or the community or technical college to publicize those high employer demand fields as part of existing community outreach efforts.

Requires the office of student financial assistance to: (1) Administer the program and adopt rules necessary to administer the program; and

(2) Award scholarships to students, who meet certain criteria, for an amount equal to the cost of tuition and required fees, less any gift aid received.