

# Senate Executive Departments and Administration Committee

*Kevin Condict 271-7875*

**SB 195**, relative to reporting requirements for the New Hampshire advisory council on career and technical education.

**Hearing Date:** March 5, 2025

**Time Opened:** 9:47 a.m.

**Time Closed:** 9:52 a.m.

**Members of the Committee Present:** Senators Pearl, McGough, Gannon, Altschiller and Reardon

**Members of the Committee Absent :** None

**Bill Analysis:** This bill changes the required content of the annual report issued by the advisory council on career and technical education.

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**Sponsors:**

Sen. Watters  
Sen. Prentiss

Sen. Altschiller  
Rep. Ladd

Sen. Birdsell  
Rep. Cornell

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**Who supports the bill:** Sen. David Watters (SD 4), Janet Lucas, and Sen. Debra Altschiller (SD 24).

**Who opposes the bill:** None.

**Who is neutral on the bill:** None.

**Summary of testimony presented:**

**Senator David Watters, Senate District 4**

- Sen. Watters introduced Senate Bill 195.
- Sen. Watters provided the Committee with an amendment, which came from further discussions with the directors of the career and technical education (CTE) centers, Deputy State CTE Director Jeff Beard, and the Commissioner of the Department of Education.
- Sen. Watters explained that the Advisory Council on Career and Technical Education was established twelve years ago. The goal was to increase access to CTE and there has been huge progress made over the last decade.

- Sen. Watters said that over time the Council has accomplished many of the things that were in the original reporting requirements. He said they thought it was time to look forward to what they should be doing. He said they decided to change the focus and change the reporting requirements to reflect that.
- Sen. Watters mentioned that CTE gets funding using the Perkins funding from the federal government to help support the renovation and construction of CTE. The twenty-one centers in the state are on a twenty-year cycle to provide money to local school districts to fund the renovation or construction of CTE centers. He said this makes it possible to respond to market needs.
- Sen. Watters said there has been a lot of discussion on how the State handles that funding, particularly if it is possible to have partnerships with the Community College System of New Hampshire (CCSNH) to build joint facilities. He said a committee was set up to study that last year.
- Sen. Watters pointed to page 2 of the amendment, where it discusses the duties of the Council. He said it talks about access and delivery of CTE programs and recruitment and retention of skilled CTE teachers. He noted that the latter has been a major issue because people can make more working the trades or in the industry. He said they have made moves so that people can come out of the trade and have a mentor and a certain number of years before they must get their required certification as an educator.
- Sen. Watters pointed to D on page 2 of the amendment, which focuses on the potential for partnerships with the CCSNH with the dual and concurrent enrollment programs. He said they are looking to blend what happens in grades 10-12 in high school and two years of community college. He said there has been a lot of success with that.
- Sen. Watters noted the amendment looks at how to enhance access and student-centered rules. The amendment also speaks to the renovation committee.
- Sen. Watters said the Council has a renewed emphasis on metrics and goals to see how the state is doing. He said they want to know what populations are being served and what problems of access there may be. He said that now that dual enrollment has become more popular, the Council wants to make sure they have good metrics on that program.
- Sen. Watters said the Council would look at the number of industry-recognized credentials, because that is the real purpose of CTE.
- Sen. Watters pointed to line 33 on page 2, which eliminates the list of requirements for the annual report and says that the annual report is going to cover what he just discussed.

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Date Hearing Report completed: March 7, 2025