

1 2 3	An act to Allow a change in graduation requirements and high school v. trade school placements for high school juniors and seniors
4 5	Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky
5 6 7 8 9 10 11	Section 1: To help counteract the rising dropout rates and for the rise in students not graduating on time, this bill would allow high school juniors or those of age 16, to have the option of finishing high school as part of a trade school or vocational program in lieu of a traditional high school program. If a student proves proficient and passes required examinations, the student would be allowed to continue toward a regular college track until the age of 19.
12 13 14 15 16	Section 2: Students in high school take many exams. This bill would allow students who were not on the college track to use these test scores and exams determined by the state, to actually finish high school in a trade or vocational school. Those students who scored high enough and met benchmarks determined by the testing could continue on the college bound program in a regular high school setting.
17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25	Students would take an ACT exam, MAP test, or a another combination of exams determined by the state at the age of 16 or end of 10th grade/beginning of the 11th grade year. The student must meet benchmarks in order to continue. At this time, the student can continue on with their high schooling and classes. IF a student does not meet benchmarks, then the student will be put into a remedial program to prepare to take the exam(s)during the spring semester of their 11th grade year. In the meantime, the student will also be able to work and or co-op with particular work sites to begin to move into the workforce and trade school setting. This will allow the trade school to hire teachers, allow the student to transition into a field that may be of more interest to him or her.
26 27 28 29	This will allow the college experience to become a more fulfilling environment and create that sense of accomplishment for those who want to go into that arena. It will also allow those who don't want to go to college to become trained in a profession of their choosing and to create a more skilled workforce.
30 31 32 33	Section 3: The cost of this change in the educational process would include trainings for teachers, administrators, counselors, and would require the cooperation of the job sites, and also the funding of the building of different trade schools.
34 35 36 37	Schools would loose some funding due to students who would not be going on the college track. However, the trade schools would benefit because they could be funded under the same system as a regular college track school is funded. This would be determined by a legislative formula.
38 39 40	The regular high schools could also gather funding for the students as they transition into the trade school setting. Schools would have funding for students up until the age of 19.
41	Section 4: Phase I: testing enacted January 1, 2015; Phase II January 1, 2017.