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KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Legislative Bill

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Referred to Committee: House 1

Authors: Ben Kash, Claudia Witcher, Rachana Pasupuleti, Murphy Kilgore	Action on the Bill	
School: Drakes Creek Middle School	House	Senate

___ Passed ___ Passed ___ Defeated ___ Defeated

An Act to Offer Technical Degrees During the Junior and Senior Years of High School

Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: This bill will give high school students the opportunity to choose a high school diploma with emphasis on a specific two year technical degree. Students who choose to participate in this program will have an altered curriculum for the technical program of study. High Schools will partner with Community Colleges to offer technical courses. Local businesses will also partner with the high schools to provide after school apprenticeships.

Section 2: A technical degree is a two year program in which a student learns a skill set that enables them to pursue a specific field of skilled labor. Skilled labor is a career that requires special training and education. An apprenticeship is where students practice their intended career at a local business or factory under professional supervision.

Section 3: The purpose of this bill is to give students who are not college bound an alternative to the low-wage jobs that many high school graduates are faced with today. Giving students specific technical skills and experience in high school can lead to a better job and higher earning potential than just a regular high school diploma.

Section 4: The program will require very little to no extra cost to the state. Each school currently receives \$3800 of SEEK money per pupil each year. The SEEK money of each student in the Technical Degree Program, will be provided in order to fund the program. Each credit hour at a Technical College will only cost about \$144, so there will be enough funding for each student's degree. This will also have a positive financial contribution to the state government, as unemployment and welfare payments will decrease and more tax revenue will be collected.

Section 5: This bill will be enacted on June 30, 2014. There will be four years to begin the work of determining curriculum and partnerships, implementation will start with the class of 2019.