



**House Education Policy Reported Substitute for
HB278**

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to public K-12 education; to authorize home school students to participate in certain career and technical education programs at public schools; to provide exemptions for full-time career and technical education schools; and to require the State Board of Education and local boards of education to adopt rules.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. For the purposes of this act, the following terms have the following meanings:

(1) CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION or CTE. An area of study that blends academic, occupational, and life skills leading to a credential, employment, or further education.

(2) HOME SCHOOL STUDENT. A student who is instructed by a private tutor pursuant to Section 16-28-5, Code of Alabama 1975, or who is taught at home and is enrolled in a private school or a church school as provided in Section 16-28-1, Code of Alabama 1975.

(3) STATE BOARD. The State Board of Education.

Section 2. (a) Beginning with the 2025-2026 school year, a home school student may participate in any career and



House Education Policy Reported Substitute for HB278

29 technical education program offered by a public school,
30 provided that the home school student enrolls as a
31 nontraditional public school student.

32 (b) A home school student's participation in a CTE
33 program is conditioned on all of the following:

34 (1) The home school student enrolling as a
35 nontraditional public school student.

36 (2) The home school student paying any course fees in
37 an amount equal to the fee charged to an enrolled public
38 school student.

39 (c) In the event that a CTE program has limited
40 enrollment capacity, a home school student who wishes to
41 enroll in the CTE program shall be considered for enrollment
42 after current public school students are enrolled.

43 (d) (1) The state board shall adopt rules to implement
44 and administer this section.

45 (2) Each local board of education shall adopt a policy
46 reflecting the requirements of this section and rules adopted
47 by the state board.

48 (e) This act does not require any full-time,
49 stand-alone career and technical education school to allow
50 home school students to participate in its career and
51 technical education programs. However, any full-time,
52 stand-alone career and technical education school may choose
53 to allow home school students to participate in its career and
54 technical education programs pursuant to this act.

55 (f) Any course fees or other costs assessed to a
56 student participating in a career and technical education



**House Education Policy Reported Substitute for
HB278**

57 program pursuant to this act shall be considered a qualifying
58 educational expense, as defined by Section 2 of Act 2024-21,
59 2024 Regular Session, the CHOOSE Act.

60 Section 3. This act shall become effective on August 1,
61 2024.