

SENATE BILL 1829

By Hensley

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,  
relative to graduation requirements.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 6, Part 4, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) The state board of education, in consultation with the department of education, shall develop and adopt an alternative graduation pathway for high school students who are interested in pursuing postsecondary technical training or a technical career after graduating high school. The alternative graduation pathway must be available to all public high school students beginning with the 2022-2023 school year.

(b) The commissioner of education may waive the assessment required under § 49-6-6001(b) or one (1) or more of the graduation requirements established by the state board for high school students, or both, upon request of the school principal on behalf of a student pursuing the alternative graduation pathway adopted by the state board, if:

(1) The student is interested in pursuing postsecondary technical training or a technical career after graduating high school; and

(2) The assessment or graduation requirement, or both, for which the student requests a waiver is primarily designed to further the educational goals of college-bound students and is inapplicable or irrelevant to the student's postsecondary technical training or technical career goals, or would otherwise delay or impair the student's ability to pursue coursework designed to further the student's postsecondary technical training or technical career goals.

SECTION 2. The state board of education is authorized to promulgate rules necessary to effectuate the purpose of this act. The rules must be promulgated in accordance with the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, compiled in title 4, chapter 5.

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.