

**LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE  
BILL ANALYSIS**

**Bill Number:** SJM 12

**52nd Legislature, 2nd Session, 2016**

**Tracking Number:** .202626.1

**Short Title:** Charter School Career & Technical Courses

**Sponsor(s):** Senators Sue Wilson Beffort and Carlos R. Cisneros

**Analyst:** Christina McCorquodale

**Date:** February 3, 2016

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**Bill Summary:**

SJM 12 urges school districts and charter schools to fully implement statutory requirements to provide career and technical education courses to students in fourth through twelfth grade. The joint memorial requests that school districts and charter schools report to the Public Education Department (PED) a list of career and technical education (CTE) courses offered each semester.

**Fiscal Impact:**

Joint memorials do not carry an appropriation.

**Substantive Issues:**

Career and technical education provides learning opportunities for students through skill acquisition and project-based learning. Current law requires that students in grades 4 through 12 are offered CTE courses as electives.

According to data compiled by the New Mexico Association for Career and Technical Education:

- CTE students increased their twelfth grade test scores on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) by about 8 scale points in reading and 11 points in math, as compared to non-CTE students;
- students who completed a rigorous academic core coupled with a career concentration have test scores that equal or exceed “college prep” students, and these dual-concentrators are more likely to pursue postsecondary education, have a higher grade point average in college, and are less likely to drop out the first year;
- CTE graduates are 10 percent to 15 percent more likely to be in the labor force, and earn 8.0 percent to 9.0 percent more than graduates of regular academic programs;
- students who took four high school CTE courses showed an average increase in earnings of \$1,200 immediately after graduation and \$1,800 seven years later;
- high-risk students are eight to 10 times less likely to drop out in eleventh or twelfth grade if they enroll in a CTE program rather than a general program; and
- in 2018, 42 percent of all jobs in New Mexico will be found in Business Management and Administration, Marketing, Sales Services, Hospitality, and Tourism, as well as, 98,000 jobs in New Mexico for those with technical certificates.