HB3278 YES to Aligning K-12 Graduation Requirements to a Student's Future

by Rep. Rhonda Baker & Sen. Adam Pugh

HB 3278 aligns high school graduation requirements to support a student's future, regardless of what comes next – college, career or military service.

- Maintains same # of graduation course requirements (23 courses), but makes them more relevant and rigorous for a student's future
- Creates "Pathway Units" that help a student find their future path through relevant and rigorous courses
- Applicable to all students and all schools beginning with seventh grade students in the 2027-2028 school year; districts can offer sooner, if interested

Expands course options under math and science

MATH

- Career Tech course
- Algebra I taken in 8th grade
- Locally approved math-based course (example: Construction 101, students will have instruction on the proper angles needed to build, have to find the amount of flooring needed for large spaces, deal with weight distribution formulas, etc.)

SCIENCE

- Career Tech course
- Locally approved science-based course (example: Cosmetology Chemistry course where the students will learn how to measure chemicals needed to treat hair and what the interactions between wrong and right chemicals could be.)

Computer Science

Adds a 4th math course requirement

- Unlike the 4-by-4 of the past, the required courses in HB 3278 are only — Algebra I and Geometry or Algebra II. The remaining 2 courses are up to the student.
- 19 states and DC require 4 or more math courses



Current - 3 Courses Required*
Algebra I*
Geometry
Algebra II
Pre-Calculus
Calculus
AP and IB Courses
Concurrent College Course
Trigonometry
Accounting
Statistics

Proposed - 4 Courses Required		
Required*	2 Additional Courses Based on Pathway	
Algebra I*	Computer Science	
Geometry* or Algebra II*	Career Tech Course	
	Locally Approved Math-Based Course	
	Pre-Calculus	
	Calculus	
	AP and IB Courses	
	Concurrent College Course	
	Trigonometry	
	Accounting	
	Statistics	

- Creates a "Pathway Unit" that will align to a student's next chapter
 - Shifts a student's focus to courses relevant to their future in college, a career or the military.
 - Students must complete 6 pathway units. The student, with support from their parents and counselors, will select pathway units that align with the student's next chapter, but doesn't box a student into any field. The units allow for "on and off ramps" for the student to explore options available, if unsure of their future path.
 - Elective courses will still be available for students to seek athletic and non-academic courses.

This is not a one-size-fits-all approach, it's an approach that takes each student's interest, aptitude and future into consideration.

