

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2023**

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**HOUSE BILL 282
Committee Substitute Favorable 3/21/23**

Short Title: Trade Schools Study.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

March 7, 2023

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT TO COMPILE INFORMATION REGARDING THE TRADES WORKFORCE AND
FUTURE TRAINING.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. The following agencies and departments shall report the information specified in Section 2 of this act to the Fiscal Research Division of the General Assembly on or before December 31, 2023:

- (1) The Commissioner of Labor.
- (2) The Superintendent of Public Instruction.
- (3) The Commissioner of Insurance.
- (4) The Department of Commerce.
- (5) The University of North Carolina.
- (6) The North Carolina Community College System.

SECTION 2. Each agency or department listed in Section 1 of this act shall compile and report information regarding each of the following, as seen, experienced, and anticipated by that agency or department:

- (1) The current process to become a worker practicing the trades in the following disciplines and all licensure requirements for each discipline, including educational requirements and experience requirements to become fully licensed in that discipline, if applicable:
 - a. Plumbing.
 - b. Heating and air-conditioning.
 - c. Electricity.
 - d. Welding.
- (2) The current number of workers in the trades, by discipline listed in subdivision (1) of this section, categorized by age, number of working years, and years of licensure, if applicable.
- (3) The projected needs of the labor force in North Carolina over the next five to 25 years in the trades for each discipline listed in subdivision (1) of this section.
- (4) The current options for a student in high school to become a worker practicing any of the trades in each discipline listed in subdivision (1) of this section.
- (5) The possibilities of establishing a high school program for students to opt to become a worker practicing the trades in one or more of the disciplines listed in subdivision (1) of this section and whether the program should include a residency option.



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1 (6) Whether students in programs such as NC LINKS could benefit from a high
2 school program for students to opt to become a worker practicing the trades
3 in one or more of the disciplines listed in subdivision (1) of this section.

4 **SECTION 3.** Upon receipt, the Fiscal Research Division shall begin to compile the
5 information into a report for the General Assembly, which may be the basis of legislative action
6 in 2024.

7 **SECTION 4.** This act is effective when it becomes law.