



Rep. André Thapedi

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LRB100 18415 AXK 38908 a

1 AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 4495

2 AMENDMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_. Amend House Bill 4495 by replacing  
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the  
5 Vocational Academy Opportunity Act.

6 Section 5. Definition. In this Act, "Board" means the Board  
7 of Trustees created by this Act.

8 Section 10. Establishment, funding, and, location.

9 (a) There are initially created 2 vocational academies, one  
10 located in Cook County and the other in St. Clair County, which  
11 shall be residential institutions. Each academy shall be  
12 located within 5 linear miles of a major interstate in a  
13 community where the average income of a household of 3 people  
14 is no greater than 100% of the federal poverty level. The land  
15 value of the community in which the academy is located may not

1 exceed \$7.50 per square foot.

2 (b) Each academy shall be a State agency, funded by State  
3 appropriations, private contributions, and endowments. Minimal  
4 fees for residential students may be charged. Each academy may  
5 admit those students who have completed the academic equivalent  
6 of the 9th grade and shall offer a program of secondary  
7 coursework that is appropriate for students in the 10th, 11th  
8 and 12th grades and that offers courses that meet the  
9 prerequisites to receiving a high school diploma under Section  
10 27-22 of the School Code. Admission shall be determined by  
11 competitive examination.

12 (c) In order to be eligible for State appropriations, each  
13 academy shall submit to the Board of Higher Education no later  
14 than the 1st day of October of each year its budget proposal  
15 for the operation and capital needs of the academy for its next  
16 fiscal year.

17 Section 15. Board of Trustees. The academies shall be  
18 governed by a single Board of Trustees for the collective  
19 operation and oversight of the academies, which shall consist  
20 of the following members:

21 (1) ex officio nonvoting members who shall be: the  
22 State Superintendent of Education, the Executive Director  
23 of the Illinois Community College Board, the Executive  
24 Director of the Board of Higher Education, and the  
25 superintendent of schools of the school district where each

1 campus is located;

2 (2) three Representatives of secondary education,  
3 appointed by the State Superintendent of Education;

4 (3) the two mayors of the municipalities where the  
5 academies are to be located;

6 (4) the president of a statewide labor federation  
7 representing more than one international union, or his or  
8 her designee, appointed by the State Superintendent of  
9 Education; and

10 (5) two members representative of the general public,  
11 appointed by the Governor.

12 With the exception of the initial appointments, the members  
13 terms of office shall be for 6 years. At the first meeting,  
14 members shall draw lots for appointments of 2, 4, or 6 year  
15 initial terms. Vacancies shall be filled for the unexpired  
16 portion of the terms by appointment of the officer who  
17 appointed the person causing such vacancy. The initial terms  
18 shall commence upon appointment and upon expiration of a term,  
19 the member shall continue serving until a successor is  
20 appointed. The Board shall select a chair from among its  
21 members who shall serve a 2-year term as chair. Members shall  
22 receive no salary but shall be reimbursed for all ordinary and  
23 necessary expenses incurred in performing their duties as  
24 members of the Board.

25 Section 20. Powers of the Board. The Board of Trustees is

1 authorized to:

2 (1) Accept donations, bequests, or other forms of  
3 financial assistance for educational purposes from any  
4 public or private person or agency and comply with rules  
5 and regulations governing grants from the federal  
6 government or from any other person or agency, which are  
7 not in contravention of the Illinois Constitution or the  
8 laws of the State of Illinois.

9 (2) Purchase equipment and make improvements to  
10 facilities necessary for the use of the academies, in  
11 accordance with applicable law.

12 (3) Adopt, amend, or repeal rules, regulations, and  
13 policies necessary for the conduct of the business of the  
14 Board.

15 (4) Award certificates and issue diplomas for  
16 successful completion of programs of study requirement  
17 provided that a high school diploma may be issued if the  
18 student has, minimally, satisfied the requirement of  
19 Section 27-22 of the School Code.

20 (5) Enter into agreements with institutions of higher  
21 education for dual credit in accordance with the  
22 requirements of the Dual Credit Quality Act.

23 (6) Select a Director who shall be the chief  
24 administrative officer of the academies and who shall  
25 administer the rules, regulations, and policies adopted by  
26 the Board of the Trustees under this Section. The Director

1 shall also be the chief administrative officer of the Board  
2 and shall be responsible for all of the Board's  
3 administrative functions, duties, and needs.

4 (7) Determine faculty and staff positions necessary  
5 for the efficient operation of the academies and select  
6 personnel for the positions.

7 (8) Prepare and adopt an annual budget necessary for  
8 the continued operation of the academies.

9 (9) Enter into contracts and agreements which have been  
10 recommended by the Director, to the extent that funds are  
11 specifically appropriated for that purpose, with other  
12 public agencies with respect to cooperative enterprises  
13 and undertakings related to or associated with an  
14 educational purpose or program affecting education in an  
15 academy. This shall not preclude the Board from entering  
16 into other contracts and agreements that it may deem  
17 necessary to carry out its duties and functions.

18 (10) Perform other functions as are necessary to the  
19 supervision and control of those phases of education under  
20 its supervision and control.

21 (11) Delegate to the Director any administrative  
22 powers and duties as it deems appropriate to aid the  
23 Director in the efficient administration of his or her  
24 responsibility for the implementation of the policies of  
25 the Board.

26 (12) Adopt rules, regulations, and policies necessary

1 for the efficient operation of an academy.

2 (13) Establish criteria to be used in determining  
3 eligibility of applicants for enrollment in an academy. The  
4 criteria shall ensure adequate geographic, sexual, and  
5 ethnic representation.

6 (14) Determine subjects and extracurricular activities  
7 to be offered by an academy.

8 (15) Pay salaries and expenses, including, but not  
9 limited to, facilities, equipment, and supplies of the  
10 faculty and staff of an academy out of funds appropriated  
11 or otherwise made available for the operating and  
12 administrative expenses of the Board and an academy.

13 (16) Exercise budgetary responsibility and allocate  
14 for expenditure by an academy and programs under its  
15 jurisdiction and all moneys appropriated or otherwise made  
16 available for purposes of the Board and of the academy.

17 (17) Prescribe and select for use in an academy free  
18 school books and other materials of instruction for  
19 children enrolled in the academy and programs under its  
20 jurisdiction for which the General Assembly provides  
21 funds.

22 (18) Prepare and adopt or approve programs of study and  
23 rules, bylaws, and regulations for the conduct of students  
24 and for the government of the school and programs under its  
25 jurisdiction.

26 (19) Employ personnel as may be needed, establish

1 policies governing their employment and dismissal, and fix  
2 the amount of their compensation. In the employment,  
3 establishment of policies, and fixing of compensation, the  
4 Board may make no discrimination on account of sex, race,  
5 creed, color, or national origin.

6 Section 25. Academy property. Each academy shall be  
7 empowered to lease or purchase real and personal property on  
8 commercially reasonable terms for the use by the academy. Any  
9 leases or purchases of real or personal property, and any  
10 disposition of the property, by an academy shall be in  
11 compliance with the provisions of the Civil Administrative Code  
12 of Illinois and the State Property Control Act. Personal  
13 property acquired for use by an academy shall be inventoried  
14 and disposed of in accordance with the State Property Control  
15 Act.

16 Section 30. Indemnification. Each academy, the Board, and  
17 its employees shall be represented and indemnified in certain  
18 civil law suits in accordance with the State Employee  
19 Indemnification Act. An academy or its officers or employees  
20 and the Board may not participate in the creation of any  
21 corporation, joint venture, partnership, association, or other  
22 organizational entity which exercises, expands, or enhances  
23 the powers, duties, or responsibilities of the academy, unless  
24 specifically authorized by the General Assembly. This Section

1 does not restrict an academy from creating any organization  
2 entity that is within or a part of the academy."