

## HOUSE BILL No. 2615

By Committee on K-12 Education Budget

2-7

1 AN ACT concerning schools; relating to school districts; authorizing  
2 policies to allow students to earn course credit through alternative  
3 educational opportunities outside the classroom.

4  
5 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

6 Section 1. (a) A board of education of a school district may adopt a  
7 policy to allow students enrolled in grades six through 12 to earn course  
8 credits through alternative educational opportunities with sponsoring  
9 entities. A school district's policy adopted pursuant to this section shall  
10 provide:

11 (1) Eligibility requirements for sponsoring entities;

12 (2) requirements for the provision of alternative educational  
13 opportunities by sponsoring entities;

14 (3) the procedures for a sponsoring entity to submit a proposal to the  
15 school district to provide an additional educational opportunity to students;

16 (4) the criteria the school district will use to evaluate such proposals;

17 (5) accountability measures for such alternative educational  
18 opportunities and sponsoring entities; and

19 (6) the course credit that may be earned through the alternative  
20 educational opportunity by a participating student.

21 (b) A school district may accept a proposal from a sponsoring entity  
22 if the alternative educational opportunity provided by the sponsoring  
23 entity:

24 (1) Provides an additional learning opportunity for students through a  
25 work-based, pre-apprenticeship, apprenticeship, internship, industry  
26 certification or community program;

27 (2) improves the academic success of students; and

28 (3) complies with the school district policies adopted pursuant to  
29 subsection (a).

30 (c) Each approved alternative educational opportunity with a  
31 sponsoring entity shall be managed and directed by a licensed teacher  
32 employed by the school district.

33 (d) If a school district approves a proposal for an alternative  
34 educational opportunity with a sponsoring entity, the school district shall  
35 submit such proposal to the state board of education. The state board of  
36 education shall approve or deny each proposal within 90 days of receipt of

1 such proposal. If the state board denies a proposal, the state board shall  
2 provide the school district with the reasons for the denial. If the state board  
3 approves a proposal, the school may implement the alternative educational  
4 opportunity at the school district. The state board may revoke any such  
5 approved proposal if the state board determines that a school district or  
6 sponsoring entity fails to comply with any terms of the alternative  
7 educational opportunity proposal or fails to comply with the school  
8 district's policies adopted pursuant to this section.

9 (e) Each school district shall report to the state department of  
10 education information regarding the school district's alternative  
11 educational opportunities offered at the school, the names of sponsoring  
12 entities, the number of students participating and credits earned.

13 (f) The state board of education may adopt rules and regulations for  
14 the administration of this section.

15 (g) As used in this section:

16 (1) "Alternative educational opportunity" means instruction that:

17 (A) Primarily occurs outside the classroom with a sponsoring entity;  
18 and

19 (B) is approved and meets course content standards as determined by  
20 the state board of education.

21 (2) "Sponsoring entity" means a business, not-for-profit organization,  
22 nonprofit organization, trade association, parent of a student, teacher or  
23 administrator that partners with a school district to provide an alternative  
24 educational opportunity to students.

25 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its  
26 publication in the statute book.