

HOUSE BILL 548

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By: **Delegate Stein**

Introduced and read first time: January 27, 2020

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Career and Technology Education – Training in Soft Business Skills**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring career and technology programs in public schools to provide
4 training in certain soft business skills; and generally relating to career and
5 technology education.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
7 Article – Education
8 Section 21–203
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

11 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
12 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

13 **Article – Education**

14 21–203.

15 Career and technology programs in the public schools shall:

16 (1) Offer a sequence of academic and occupational courses[,] AND career
17 development[, and work experience] OPPORTUNITIES to ADEQUATELY prepare students
18 to [begin] SECURE GAINFUL EMPLOYMENT, EXCEL IN THEIR careers, and [to] pursue
19 lifelong learning; [and]

20 (2) Integrate academic knowledge [and], occupational competence, AND
21 PROFESSIONAL WORKPLACE SOFT SKILLS to enable students to develop [the] critical
22 thinking, problem solving, employability, COMMUNICATION, INTERPERSONAL, and
23 technical skills [required to meet the workforce preparation and economic development

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 needs of the 21st century]; AND

2 **(3) INTEGRATE INTO THE ACADEMIC CURRICULUM TRAINING AND**
3 **EXPOSURE IN SOFT BUSINESS SKILLS, INCLUDING:**

4 **(I) EMPLOYEE AND EMPLOYER RELATIONSHIPS AND**
5 **RESPONSIBILITIES;**

6 **(II) GENERAL BUSINESS ETIQUETTE;**

7 **(III) SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL AWARENESS IN THE WORKPLACE;**

8 **(IV) GROUP WORK SKILLS, INCLUDING ACCOUNTABILITY,**
9 **CONSENSUS BUILDING, AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION;**

10 **(V) APPROPRIATE PROFESSIONAL ORAL AND WRITTEN**
11 **COMMUNICATION SKILLS;**

12 **(VI) PUBLIC PRESENTATION AND CUSTOMER SERVICE SKILLS;**

13 **(VII) PROJECT PLANNING; AND**

14 **(VIII) USE OF COMMON BUSINESS TOOLS SUCH AS E-MAIL,**
15 **SPREADSHEETS, WORD PROCESSORS, AND PRESENTATION SOFTWARE.**

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
17 1, 2020.