



Renee McGuirk Spence, Executive Director
9 Trotters Ridge Court, Catonsville, MD 21228
410-925-2183
pssamed@gmail.com
www.pssam.org

BILL: Senate Bill 167
TITLE: Pathways in Technology Early College High (P-TECH) Expansion Act of 2019
DATE: February 20, 2019
POSITION: SUPPORT
COMMITTEE: Education, Health and Environmental Affairs
CONTACT: Renee McGuirk Spence, Executive Director, PSSAM
Email: pssamed@gmail.com; Cell: 410-925-2183

Senate Bill 167 repeals the limit on the number of Pathways in Technology Early College High (P-TECH) Planning Grants that may be awarded to a local school system in each year; removing the prohibition against new P-TECH Planning Grants being awarded to establish a new P-TECH school until after the 2016-2017 cohort of P-TECH students completes the 6-year pathway sequence; and repealing certain intent language regarding a prohibition against additional P-TECH schools.

PSSAM **supports** Senate Bill 167.

Pathways in Technology Early College High (P-TECH) is a state-of-the-art methodology to instruction and preparing students for success in careers. P-TECH is designed to provide successful career opportunities for students. Through collaboration between local school systems, community colleges, and corporate partners, P-TECH schools provide innovative academic programs combined with workplace opportunities that offer skills instruction and paid summer internships. After completion of the six-year program, students graduate with a high school diploma and an associate degree from an accredited community college. Students graduating from P-TECH programs will have the expertise and knowledge to obtain well-paying employment in their field of study.

PSSAM applauds and fully supports the repeal on the limit on the number of P-TECH Planning Grants awarded in each year as well as the removal of the prohibition against new P-TECH Planning grants being awarded to establish a new P-TECH school.

For the reasons stated above, PSSAM **supports** Senate Bill 167.