

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2021

H.B. 1022
May 23, 2022
HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH10561-STa-64

Short Title: High School Trade Study. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative Winslow.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR TO STUDY WAYS TO
3 INCREASE THE NUMBER OF WORKERS PRACTICING THE TRADES IN THE
4 LABOR FORCE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.** The Commissioner of Labor, in consultation with the Superintendent
7 of Public Instruction and the Commissioner of Insurance and the Department of Commerce, shall
8 study ways to increase the number of workers practicing the trades in the labor force in North
9 Carolina. As part of the study, the Commissioner of Labor shall address all of the following:

- 10 (1) The current process to become a worker practicing the trades in the following
11 disciplines and all licensure requirements for each discipline:
12 a. Plumbing.
13 b. Heating and air conditioning.
14 c. Electricity.
15 d. Welding.
16 (2) The current number of workers in the trades, by discipline listed in subdivision
17 (1) of this section, categorized by age, number of working years, and years of
18 licensure, if applicable.
19 (3) The projected needs of the labor force in North Carolina over the next five to
20 25 years in the trades for each discipline listed in subdivision (1) of this
21 section.
22 (4) The process to become a worker practicing the trades for each discipline listed
23 in subdivision (1) of this section, including educational requirements and
24 experience requirements to become fully licensed in that discipline, if
25 applicable.
26 (5) The current options for a student in high school to become a worker practicing
27 any of the trades in each discipline listed in subdivision (1) of this section.
28 (6) The possibilities of establishing a high school program for students to opt to
29 become a worker practicing the trades in one or more of the disciplines listed
30 in subdivision (1) of this section and whether the program should include a
31 residency option.
32 (7) Whether students in programs such as NC LINKS could benefit from a high
33 school program for students to opt to become a worker practicing the trades
34 in one or more of the disciplines listed in subdivision (1) of this section.

35 **SECTION 2.** There is appropriated two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000)
36 from the General Fund to the Commissioner of Labor for the purpose of contracting with an



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1 independent third party to conduct research for the study required by this act. The Commissioner
2 of Labor shall report its findings and recommendations, together with any proposed legislative
3 changes, to the General Assembly on or before March 1, 2023.

4 **SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law.