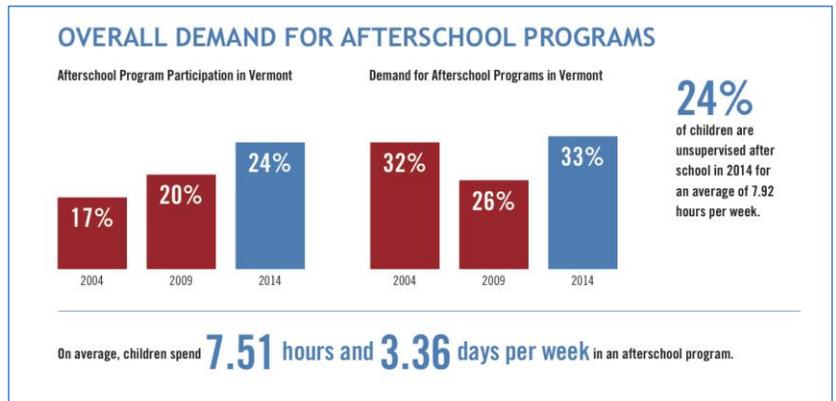


Please Support the Expanded Learning Opportunities Bill - H.391

- Children and youth are most likely to be in or cause automobile accidents, commit crimes, be victims of crime, or engage in risky behavior *between the hours of 3:00 and 6:00 p.m.*
- Differences in math achievement attributable to family income *were eliminated* for students in kindergarten through 5th grade who were provided consistent, high-quality afterschool activities.
- **For every \$1 spent on quality Expanded Learning Opportunity programs, Vermont could realize \$2.18 in long-term savings and benefits.**
- Thirty-three percent (33%) of parents of Vermont children who are not currently enrolled in an ELO report that *they would enroll their child if a program were available.*



H.391 – the Expanded Learning Opportunities Bill

The Expanded Learning Opportunities Bill would create an Expanded Learning Opportunities Review Committee to put a focus on bringing Expanded Learning Opportunities to every community in Vermont over the next several years. It would also create a special fund so the committee could solicit funding for this purpose or the state could allocate funding to support Expanded Learning Opportunity programs.

Expanded Learning Opportunities Review Committee

This section would create an Expanded Learning Opportunities Review Committee (ELORC) housed in the Agency of Education, with the following members:

- the Secretary of Education or designee;
- the Commissioner of the Department for Children and Families or designee;
- the Director of Vermont Afterschool, Inc. or designee;
- one current member of the House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House;
- one current member of the Senate, appointed by the Committee on Committees;
- one member appointed by the Vermont Superintendents Association;
- one member appointed by the Vermont School Boards Association;
- one member appointed by the Vermont Principals' Association;
- two members appointed by the Prekindergarten–16 Council; and
- three members representing ELO programs that have been in operation since at least July 1, 2014, with one member to be appointed each by the Governor, the Speaker, and the Committee on Committees.

The ELORC will report annually to the General Assembly on its activities. Its duties would include:

- Developing all aspects of the Expanded Learning Opportunities Grant Program (see other side of page)
- Awarding grants when funding is available
- Pursuing grants or other funding for the program (federal, private, state, etc.)
- Administering the grants that are awarded

Expanded Learning Opportunities Grant Program

The ELORC will create a Grant Program that shall award grants for the purpose of increasing access to expanded learning opportunities throughout Vermont. Monies for the grant program could be state funds, as well as grants, donations and contributions from any other public or private source. A Vermont Expanded Learning Opportunities Special Fund would be created by the bill to receive any funding that would be made available for this purpose.

The bill specifies that grants would be available through this program in three particular categories:

1. Grants to school districts or supervisory unions that already have an Expanded Learning Opportunity program. (amount to be determined by size of the program)
2. Grants to organizations that provide technical assistance or professional development opportunities to Expanded Learning Opportunities programs. (maximum grant: \$300,000)
3. Grants to community organizations that want to assess whether an Expanded Learning Opportunity is needed and how families might access it if available, or to explore community partnerships for an Expanded Learning Opportunity program. (maximum grant: \$5000)

The bill specifies that all grants awarded in the first or second categories, above, will require a dollar-for-dollar match.

AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS SAVE TAX DOLLARS

Every **\$1** invested in afterschool & summer programs saves VT **\$2.18** by

- ✓ Reducing crime and welfare costs
- ✓ Improving kids' performance at school
- ✓ Increasing kids' earning potential

AMERICA AFTER3PM Learn more at www.afterschoolalliance.org/AA3PM
Vermont Afterschool, Inc. (2014). *Return on Investment Study*. Available at <http://bit.ly/1zqTHp0>

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