

1 Introduced by
2 Referred to Committee on
3 Date:
4 Subject: <Subject>

5 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to make
6 miscellaneous **technical and other** amendments to education laws, including
7 **_____**.

8 An act relating to making miscellaneous **technical and other** amendments to
9 education laws

10 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

11 ***** Elementary Education; Prekindergarten *****

12 Sec. **1**. 16 V.S.A. § 11(a)(3) is amended to read: **[requested by AOE]**

13 (3) “Elementary education” means a program of public school education
14 adapted to the needs of students in prekindergarten, kindergarten, and the first
15 six grades.

16 ***** Divided Vote; Repeal of Language No Longer in Effect *****

17 Sec. **2**. 16 V.S.A. § 563 is amended to read: **IN H.361 AS WELL**

18 § 563. ~~POWERS OF SCHOOL BOARDS; FORM OF VOTE IF BUDGET~~
19 ~~EXCEEDS BENCHMARK AND DISTRICT SPENDING IS ABOVE~~
20 ~~AVERAGE~~

1 ~~distribution of the proposed budget, for state and local government purchases~~
2 ~~of goods and services for the fiscal year for which the budget is proposed, plus~~
3 ~~one percentage point; plus the district's education spending per equalized pupil~~
4 ~~in the fiscal year preceding the year for which the budget is proposed, as~~
5 ~~determined by the commissioner of education;~~

6 ~~(II) multiplied by the higher of the following amounts as~~
7 ~~determined by the commissioner of education: (aa) the district's equalized~~
8 ~~pupil count in the fiscal year preceding the year for which the budget is~~
9 ~~proposed; or (bb) the district's equalized pupil count in the fiscal year for~~
10 ~~which the budget is proposed.~~

11 ~~(ii) The ballot shall be in the following form:~~

12 ~~“The total proposed budget of \$_____ is the amount determined~~
13 ~~by the school board to be necessary to support the school district's educational~~
14 ~~program. State law requires the vote on this budget to be divided because (i)~~
15 ~~the school district's spending per pupil last year was more than the statewide~~
16 ~~average and (ii) this year's proposed budget is greater than last year's budget~~
17 ~~adjusted for inflation.~~

18 ~~“Article #1 (School Budget):~~

19 ~~Part A. Shall the voters of the school district authorize the school~~
20 ~~board to expend \$ _____, which is a portion of the amount the school board~~
21 ~~has determined to be necessary?~~

1 facilities, and professional or other staff. ~~Nothing herein shall be construed to~~
2 ~~permit the designation by a school district that does not maintain a secondary~~
3 ~~school of another school district's secondary school as the secondary school of~~
4 ~~the district.~~

5 *** * * Sight and Hearing Testing; Equipment * * ***

6 Sec. 5. REPEAL

7 16 V.S.A. § 1421 (sight and hearing testing equipment) is repealed.

8 *** * * Tiered System of Supports * * ***

9 Sec. 6. 16 V.S.A. § 2902 is amended to read: **[requested by AOE in 2014;**

10 **included in House AND Senate-Passed versions of H.876]**

11 § 2902. ~~EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT SYSTEM~~ TIERED SYSTEM OF
12 SUPPORTS AND EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT TEAM

13 (a) Within each school district's comprehensive system of educational
14 services, each public school shall develop and maintain ~~an educational support~~
15 ~~system for students who require additional assistance in order~~ a tiered system
16 of academic and behavioral supports for the purpose of providing all students
17 with the opportunity to succeed or to be challenged in the general education
18 environment. For each school it maintains, a school district board shall assign
19 responsibility for developing and maintaining the ~~educational support system~~
20 tiered system of supports either to the superintendent pursuant to a contract
21 entered into under section 267 of this title or to the school principal. ~~The~~

1 ~~educational support system~~ The school shall provide all students a full and fair
2 opportunity to access the system of supports and achieve educational success.

3 [**House 2014:** *The tiered system of supports shall, at a minimum, include a~~n~~*
4 *educational support team and a range of support and remedial services,*
5 *including instructional and behavioral interventions and accommodations that*
6 *are available as needed for any student who requires support beyond what can*
7 *be provided in the general education classroom, and intensive, individualized*
8 *interventions for any student requiring a higher level of support.*.]

9 [**Senate 2014:** *The tiered system of supports shall, at a minimum, include an*
10 *educational support team,-instructional and behavioral interventions, and*
11 *accommodations that are available as needed for any student who requires*
12 *support beyond what can be provided in the general education classroom.*.]

13 (b) The ~~educational support system~~ tiered system of supports shall:

14 (1) Be ~~integrated to the extent~~ aligned as appropriate with the general
15 education curriculum.

16 (2) Be designed to ~~increase~~ enhance the ability of the general education
17 system to meet the needs of all students.

18 (3) Be designed to provide ~~students the support needed~~ necessary
19 supports promptly, regardless of an individual student's eligibility for
20 categorical programs.

1 ~~may not opt out of such treatment, and the averaging shall continue until the~~
2 ~~district no longer qualifies for such treatment.~~

3 * * * **Voluntary Mergers; Incentives** * * *

4 **IN H.361 AS WELL**

5 Sec. **10**. 2010 Acts and Resolves No. 153, Sec. 2(a), as amended by 2012
6 Acts and Resolves No. 156, Sec. 1, is further amended to read:

7 (a) Program created. There is created a school district merger incentive
8 program under which the incentives outlined in Sec. 4 of this act shall be
9 available to each new unified union school district created pursuant to Sec. 3 of
10 this act and to each new district created under Sec. 3 of this act by the merger
11 of districts that provide education by paying tuition; and to the Vermont
12 members of any new interstate school district if the Vermont members jointly
13 satisfy the size criterion of Sec. 3(a)(1) of this act and the new, merged district
14 meets all other requirements of Sec. 3 of this act. Incentives shall be available,
15 however, only if the ~~effective date of merger is on or before~~ **July 1** merger
16 receives final approval of the electorate prior to **November 30**, 2017.

17 Sec. **11**. 2010 Acts and Resolves No. 153, Sec. 4, as amended by 2012 Acts
18 and Resolves No. 156, Sec. 13, is further amended to read:

19 Sec. 4. VOLUNTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT MERGER; INCENTIVES

20 * * *

21 (h) ~~This section is repealed on July 1, 2017.~~ The incentives provided in

1 this section shall be available only if the merger receives final approval of the
2 electorate prior to **November 30**, 2017 or as otherwise provided by the General
3 Assembly.

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***** Effective Dates *****

9

Sec. 11. EFFECTIVE DATES

10

This act shall take effect on _____