

1 TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

2 The Committee on Commerce and Economic Development to which was
3 referred House Bill No. 377 entitled “An act relating to the creation of a
4 public-private partnership with Advance Vermont to increase postsecondary
5 attainment in Vermont” respectfully reports that it has considered the same and
6 recommends that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting
7 clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

8 Sec. 1. VERMONT ADVANCE PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

9 (a) Duties. Advance Vermont shall perform the following duties, in
10 coordination and in alignment with State partners, in support of the State’s goal
11 articulated in 10 V.S.A. § 546 that 70 percent of working-age Vermonters hold
12 a credential of value by 2025 (goal):

13 (1) increase public awareness of the value of postsecondary education
14 and training to help people of any age make informed decisions about the value
15 of education and training that would further their advancement in educational
16 pathways and pursuit of career goals, through targeted outreach as outlined in
17 subsection (b) below;

18 (2) promote broad understanding of the public good and value in
19 achieving the State’s goal and of actions stakeholders can take to increase
20 attainment;

1 (3) assist or coordinate with stakeholders, such as educational, business,
2 governmental, non-profit, and philanthropic organizations, in activities that
3 seek to align the delivery of high-quality education and training opportunities
4 with career advancement and support the policy priorities outlined in 10
5 V.S.A. § 546;

6 (4) collect and display publicly available, nonconfidential information
7 about postsecondary credentials available to Vermonters;

8 (5) facilitate conversations or provide information about the national
9 best practices in aligning, recognizing, measuring, tracking, and promoting
10 post-secondary credentials of value to the Vermont Department of Labor and
11 Agency of Education when requested;

12 (6) maintain its web-based resources that provide information about
13 opportunities to obtain a post-secondary credential of value, in coordination
14 with state partners;

15 (7) support the Vermont Department of Labor and Agency of Education
16 transition or integration of Advance Vermont’s web-based resources and
17 collected information in subdivision (4) of this subsection into a State
18 supported system in a coordinated way; and

19 (8) meet on a quarterly basis with the Vermont Department of Labor and
20 Agency of Education about activities described in this subsection.

21 (b) Outreach. Advance Vermont may use funds awarded by the State to:

1 (1) create and distribute public facing communications and resources
2 related the duties described above; and

3 (2) offer support to career and education counselors, employment and
4 training counselors, jobseekers and their families, and other stakeholders,
5 consistent with best practice and State policy and programs, to help them better
6 understand the postsecondary education and training landscape.

7 (c) Reports. Advance Vermont shall provide the following written reports
8 to:

9 (1) the Vermont Department of Labor and Agency of Education about
10 work and activities anticipated through a simplified reporting template jointly
11 developed by Advance Vermont and the State entities on a quarterly basis; and

12 (2) on or before December 15, 2022, the House and Senate Committees
13 of jurisdiction regarding the use of funds, activities performed, and outcomes
14 achieved by Advance Vermont.

15 (d) Appropriation. The sum of \$350,000.00 is appropriated from the
16 General Fund in fiscal year 2023 to the Vermont Student Assistance
17 Corporation for the purposes of funding the work outlined in this section by
18 Advance Vermont.

19 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

20 This act shall take effect on passage.

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3 (Committee vote: _____)

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Representative _____

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FOR THE COMMITTEE