

**From:** Coriell, Scott [Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 06, 2016 1:40 PM  
**To:** Pepper, James; Gray, Laura  
**Subject:** RE: FACT CHECK - CONF PRIV DO NOT DISTRIBUTE

Yep. Got it.

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**From:** Pepper, James  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 06, 2016 1:39 PM  
**To:** Coriell, Scott <Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov>; Gray, Laura <Laura.Gray@vermont.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: FACT CHECK - CONF PRIV DO NOT DISTRIBUTE

Hey Scott – Just wanted to make sure you saw this about Brandin from the ManUp program. He was not banging nails back in February. He was working as a line cook at the Grey Fox Inn in Stowe.

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**From:** Pepper, James  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 06, 2016 12:57 PM  
**To:** Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@vermont.gov>  
**Cc:** Coriell, Scott <Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov>; Allen, Susan <Susan.Allen@vermont.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: FACT CHECK - CONF PRIV DO NOT DISTRIBUTE

Looks great. I fixed the part about Brandin banging nails. He was working as a line cook at the Grey Fox Inn in Stowe.

As to the substance of Step Up, UVM and VSC/CCV are concerned about combining the ManUp expansion and Complete College proposal into one program. They want these two programs to be distinct for marketing purposes, to avoid cross-pollination of money, and, I would guess, to insulate Complete College if ManUp is axed by a future administration.

I don't know how you feel about that, but you could say: "In partnership with CCV, Vermont State Colleges and UVM my budget will provide \$2 million to launch Step Up and Complete College, funding a semester of free courses and support services to help first generation and low income students get back to school."

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**From:** Springer, Darren  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 05, 2016 5:08 PM  
**To:** Pepper, James <James.Pepper@vermont.gov>  
**Cc:** Coriell, Scott <Scott.Coriell@vermont.gov>; Allen, Susan <Susan.Allen@vermont.gov>  
**Subject:** FACT CHECK - CONF PRIV DO NOT DISTRIBUTE

**As I travel around Vermont talking to employers their biggest challenge remains finding enough trained and educated workers.**

By expanding the number of kids earning college credit for free while still in high school and becoming the only state to guarantee every three and four-year-old access to high quality pre-k, we have taken Vermont's good education system and made it better.

**Here's what that means for ( story,);**

Despite having one of the highest graduation rates in the country, we continue to stumble getting more students the college education that is now a prerequisite to earning a decent wage.

That's why I signed a bill last year to help families start saving for college from the day their children are born. Now we must fund it. My budget will ensure every child born in Vermont will receive a \$250 contribution to get a savings plan started, and for low-income Vermonters we will double that to \$500. Let's ensure that Vermont kids who are not born with mountains of opportunity have the same shot at economic prosperity as those who are.

We also need to make it easier for those who are working hard in low-paying jobs to get back to school. Every day, I meet Vermonters who ended their studies in high school, are working numerous jobs to make ends meet, long for a better future and more education, but don't have an extra penny to rub together. The other night I went to Morrisville and visited the Man Up program at CCV, which offers support and mentoring for young men who are in this exact situation. There I met Brandin and Justin Bourdeau. In the bitter cold of last February, Brandin was [working as a line cook at a restaurant in Stowe \[Grey Fox Inn\]](#) and thinking about his future. Justin was working at a local grocery store. Through the Man Up program, these two Vermonters are successfully back on the academic track. Brandin, Justin, and Billi Dunham, the facilitator of this program, are all here today. Stand up and let's recognize them for their good work.

It is our responsibility to offer the same opportunity to every Vermonter, every woman, every man. Today I propose we not just Man Up – let's Step Up for everyone. In partnership with CCV, Vermont State Colleges and UVM my budget will provide \$2 million to launch Step Up, funding a semester of free courses and support services to help first generation and low income students get back to school. GlobalFoundries has agreed to offer mentoring support to Step Up students. Mike Russo and Kim Finnigan from GlobalFoundries are here today– Mike and Kim, thank you for investing in our workforce.

**Darren M. Springer**

*Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor*

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Please note: My email address has changed to [Darren.Springer@vermont.gov](mailto:Darren.Springer@vermont.gov).