

1 TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

2 The Committee on Education to which was referred Senate Bill No. 180
3 entitled “An act relating to increasing General Fund appropriations to the
4 Vermont State Colleges” respectfully reports that it has considered the same
5 and recommends that the act be amended by striking out all after the enacting
6 clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

7 Sec. 1. 16 V.S.A. § 2171(f) is added to read:

8 (f) For each fiscal year, the amount appropriated from the General Fund to
9 the Vermont State Colleges, or successor under subsection (a) of this section,
10 shall be increased by no less than that fiscal year’s percentage increase in the
11 General Fund appropriation of transfer to the Education Fund under Sec.
12 4025(a)(2) of this title.

13 Sec. 2. CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDIT PROGRAM FOR SKILLED
14 WORKERS IN LICENSED TRADES

15 (a) The Chancellor of the Vermont State Colleges and the President of the
16 University of Vermont, or designees, shall jointly develop a continuing
17 education credit program that establishes a uniform system for awarding
18 education credits to students who are skilled workers in licensed trades. The
19 program shall include the following elements:

20 (1) the identification of the licensed trades that are within the scope of
21 the program, which shall not exceed 15 trades, and the basis for determining

1 which trades should be included [do you want to set forth criteria for this
2 determination?];

3 (2) the qualifications of skilled workers in these trades that are required
4 in order to receive credits [do you want to specify the qualifications, e.g.,
5 licensed workers only?];

6 (3) the number of credits awarded to qualified skilled workers and the
7 basis for determining the number of credits; and

8 (4) the academic programs and degrees to which the credits will apply.

9 (b) The continuing education credit program shall be recognized at each of
10 the Vermont State Colleges and the University of Vermont, the academic
11 credits under the program shall be awarded uniformly based on the same
12 criteria by these institutions, and the credits shall be transferable among these
13 institutions.

14 (c) By December 1, 2016, the Chancellor of the Vermont State Colleges
15 and the President of the University of Vermont shall jointly deliver a report
16 detailing the proposed continuing education credit program to the House and
17 Senate Committees on Education.

18 Sec. 3. TUITION FOR VERMONT STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE
19 UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT AND STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

20 (a) Notwithstanding the requirement of 16 V.S.A. § 2282(b), which states
21 that a Vermont resident who is enrolled in the University of Vermont as a full-

1 time undergraduate student shall not pay tuition in an amount that exceeds 40
2 percent of the tuition charged to a nonresident student, the University may
3 charge tuition in accordance with this section.

4 (b) For the [2017 and 2018 academic years only], the University may lower
5 the tuition for non-resident students such that full-time undergraduate students
6 who are resident in Vermont pay tuition in an amount that exceeds 40 percent
7 of the tuition charged to a nonresident student. In the event this authority is
8 used by the University, tuition for full-time undergraduate students who are
9 resident in Vermont may not subsequently be increased until such time as the
10 tuition charged to these students does not exceed 40 percent of the tuition
11 charged to a nonresident student.

12 Sec. 4. 16 V.S.A. § 2885 is amended to read:

13 § 2885. VERMONT HIGHER EDUCATION ENDOWMENT TRUST FUND

14 (a) A Vermont Higher Education Endowment Trust Fund is established in
15 the ~~office~~ Office of the State Treasurer to comprise the following:

- 16 (1) appropriations made by the General Assembly;
- 17 (2) in any fiscal year in which a General Fund surplus exists and the
18 General Fund Stabilization Reserve is funded to its required statutory level,
19 funds raised by the estate tax levied under 32 V.S.A. chapter 190 that are more
20 than ~~425~~ 100 percent of the amount projected by the Emergency Board in the
21 July annual forecast made pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 305a; and

2 ***

4 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.

8 FOR THE COMMITTEE