

CONFIDENTIAL
LEGISLATIVE BILL REVIEW FORM: 2015

Bill Number: H.480 Name of Bill: An act relating to making miscellaneous technical and other amendments to education laws

Agency/ Dept: Education Author of Bill Review: Jill Remick

Date of Bill Review: 5/28/15 Related Bills and Key Players House and Senate Education Committees

Status of Bill: (check one): ☐ Upon Introduction ☐ As passed by 1st body ☒ As passed by both

Recommended Position:

☒ Support ☐ Oppose ☐ Remain Neutral ☐ Support with modifications identified in #8 below

Analysis of Bill

1. Summary of bill and issue it addresses. *Describe what the bill is intended to accomplish and why.*

Largely technical corrections, this bill also includes language that will allow schools to count their prekindergarten students towards federal E-rate reimbursement; aligning language regarding multi-tiered systems of support to improve outcomes for all students; and creates an Extended Learning Opportunities fund.

This bill largely includes requests from the Agency and does not create new work for the Agency. It aligns state statute with current best practices regarding MTSS and will support the Agency work in implementing that statewide.

2. Is there a need for this bill? *Please explain why or why not.*

The most important piece is the reflection of prekindergarten in the definition of elementary education. This is important because it allows schools that offer prekindergarten to collect federal E-rate technology funds (can count those students in their enrollment).

3. What are likely to be the fiscal and programmatic implications of this bill for this Department?

Only positive – no fiscal impact beyond schools being able to collect federal funds (see above). The MTSS language firms up the support for the work we and schools are currently doing.

4. What might be the fiscal and programmatic implications of this bill for other departments in state government, and what is likely to be their perspective on it?

The Vermont Department of Health requested the removal of outdated language in Section 5, so they support this bill as well.

Please return this bill review as a Microsoft Word document to laura.gray@state.vt.us and jessica.mishaan@state.vt.us

The creation of the Extended Learning Opportunities Committee under the Prek-16 Council was widely supported by Vermont Afterschool Inc. and the Prek-16 Council, and allows the Committee to privately fundraise for afterschool supports beyond the current federal supports under 21C.

5. What might be the fiscal and programmatic implications of this bill for others, and what is likely to be their perspective on it? *(for example, public, municipalities, organizations, business, regulated entities, etc)*

None beyond the federal E-rate funds. Schools that are currently considering RED mergers appreciate the corrected effective date (included in the draft by Legislative Counsel request).

6. Other Stakeholders:

6.1 Who else is likely to support the proposal and why?

Schools, supervisory unions and districts; school health officials; special educators; PreK-16 Council and Vermont Afterschool.

6.2 Who else is likely to oppose the proposal and why?

No one has testified in opposition.

7. Rationale for recommendation: *Justify recommendation stated above.*

This bill provides clarity and positive impact on schools but with little no impact. If the bill doesn't pass, schools will not be able to take full advantage of federal E-rate funds.

8. Specific modifications that would be needed to recommend support of this bill: *Not meant to rewrite bill, but rather, an opportunity to identify simple modifications that would change recommended position.*

9. Gubernatorial appointments to board or commission?

None.

Secretary/Commissioner has reviewed this document:  Date: 5/29/15