

1 TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

2 The Committee on Education to which was referred House Bill No. 716
3 entitled “An act relating to making miscellaneous changes in education law”
4 respectfully reports that it has considered the same and recommends that the
5 Senate propose to the House that the bill be amended by striking out all after
6 the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

7 * * * Special Education Funding * * *

8 Sec. 1. 16 V.S.A. § 2961 is amended to read:

9 § 2961. CENSUS GRANT

10 * * *

11 (d)(1)(A) For fiscal year 2023, the amount of the census grant for a
12 supervisory union shall be:

13 (i) the average amount it received for fiscal years 2018, 2019, and
14 2020, or the average amount it received for fiscal years 2019, 2020, and 2021,
15 whichever amount is greater, from the State for special education under
16 sections 2961 (standard mainstream block grants), 2963 (special education
17 expenditures reimbursement), and 2963a (exceptional circumstances) of this
18 title; increased by

19 (ii) the annual change in the National Income and Product
20 Accounts (NIPA) Implicit Price Deflator for State and Local Government

1 Consumption Expenditures and Gross Investment as reported by the
2 U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis.

3 * * *

4 * * * Special Education Rule Change; Delay * * *

5 **Sec. 2.** STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION 2360 RULE SERIES; PARTIAL
6 DELAY

7 (a) Rule delay.

8 (b) Waiver.

9 (c) Remove Sec. 2 (no delay).

10 * * * Education Quality Standards; Rulemaking * * *

11 **Sec. 3a.** 16 V.S.A. § 165 is amended to read:

12 * * *

13 (g)(1) In addition to the education quality standards provided in section (a)
14 of this section, each Vermont school district shall meet the school district
15 quality standards adopted by rule of the State Board of Education regarding:

16 (A) holocaust education; and

17 (B) civics education, which shall include the U.S. Constitution and
18 foundations of U.S. government, political philosophy, social movements and
19 struggles, and community engagement.

20 (2) These standards shall include a process for school district quality
21 reviews to be conducted by the Agency of Education. Annually, the Secretary

1 shall publish metrics regarding the outcomes of school district quality
2 reviews.

3 Sec. 4. EDUCATION QUALITY STANDARDS; RULEMAKING [Effective
4 July 1, 2022]

5 On or before February 1, 2023, the State Board of Education shall initiate
6 rulemaking to update education quality standards to include school district
7 quality standards as required under Sec. 3 of this act. Prior to the filing of the
8 draft updated rules with the Interagency Committee on Administrative Rules,
9 the Agency of Education shall engage stakeholders for input on the draft rules
10 in accordance with a written plan approved by the State Board of Education.

11 Sec. 3b. EDUCATION QUALITY STANDARDS; REPORT

12 On or before January 15, 2023, the State Board of Education, in
13 consultation with the Agency of Education, shall submit a written report to the
14 House and Senate Committees on Education with recommendations on how to
15 incorporate civics education standards and holocaust education standards into
16 statewide educational quality standards. The report shall include an analysis of
17 the necessary subtopics to include in civics education standards, which may
18 include the U.S. Constitution and foundations of U.S. government, political
19 philosophy, social movements and struggles, and community engagement.
20 The report shall also include any recommendations for legislative action.

21

1 of Vermont students, it is necessary to invest in nontraditional educator
2 training programs.

3 (b) Grant program.

4 (1) In fiscal year 2023, there is established the Peer Review Support
5 Grant Program, to be administered by the Agency of Education, to provide
6 grants to expand support, mentoring, and professional development to
7 prospective educators seeking licensure through the Agency of Education's
8 peer review process, with the goal of increased program completion rates.

9 (2) Program administration. The Agency shall adopt policies,
10 procedures, and guidelines necessary for implementation of the program
11 described in subdivision (1) of this section.

12 (3) Eligibility criteria. The Agency shall issue grants to organizations
13 with established programs designed to provide prospective educators in the
14 peer review program the support necessary for successful completion of the
15 peer review process by providing:

16 (A) support through the Praxis exam process;

17 (B) local educator lead seminars designed around the Vermont
18 licensure portfolio themes;

19 (C) local educator mentors;

20 (D) support in completing the peer review portfolio and licensing
21 process; and

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Senator _____

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FOR THE COMMITTEE