

1 **Proposed CRF Education Language from HEC to HAC**

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4 Sec. 1. 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 120, Sec. A.50 is amended to read:

5 Sec. A.50. PRE-K–12 EDUCATION PANDEMIC COSTS: CORONAVIRUS

6 RELIEF FUND APPROPRIATIONS

7 (a) Total appropriation. The sum of \$50,000,000 is appropriated in fiscal
8 year 2020, and the sum of \$32,000,000.00 is appropriated in fiscal year 2021,

9 to the Agency of Education to fund eligible fiscal years 2020 and 2021

10 expenditures of Vermont prekindergarten–grade 12 public schools and

11 approved independent schools. Eligible expenditures shall conform with the

12 requirements of Sec. 5001 of the CARES Act, Pub. L. No. 116-136, and

13 related guidance, and shall be determined by the Secretary of Education.

14 (1) This funding is allocated to the categories under subsections (b), (c),
15 and (d) of this section.

16 (A) If the Agency determines that any allocation to a category is
17 likely not to be fully used by December 20, 2020 or, based on its view of
18 relative priority, should be reallocated to another category, it may reallocate
19 that funding to one or more of the other categories that it believes has or will
20 have eligible CARES Act expenses.

1 freezers and other capital assets, necessary to provide meals to children using
2 the federal child nutrition programs during the COVID-19 state of
3 emergency. These funds are restricted to costs that exceed the federal per-meal
4 reimbursement received for meals provided through these programs.

5 (c) If the Agency determines that the \$4,000,000.00 allocation under
6 subsection (b) of this section is likely not to be fully used by December 20,
7 2020, it shall reallocate the unused portion of that funding to eligible CARES
8 Act expenditures incurred by school districts under 2020 Acts and Resolves
9 No. 120, Sec. 50, as amended by this act.

10 (1) If the Agency expects that during the period from December 20,
11 2020 to December 30, 2020 a recipient of funding under this section will have
12 eligible supplies and equipment food services CARES Act expenses, then it
13 shall provide funding for those expenses to the extent funding is available,
14 unless the Agency has reprioritized that funding under 2020 Acts and Resolves
15 No. 120, Sec. 50, as amended by this act.

16 (2) Any reallocation shall be reported to the Joint Fiscal Committee, the
17 Commissioner of Finance and Management, and the Joint Fiscal Office.

18 Sec. 4. LENGTH OF 2020–2021 SCHOOL YEAR

19 Notwithstanding 16 V.S.A. § 1071(a), for the 2020–2021 school year, each
20 public school shall be maintained and operated for not less than 170 student

1 attendance days, except as provided in subsection (g) of that section, which
2 allows for waivers of this requirement.

3 Sec. 5. 2020–2021 SCHOOL YEAR; AUSTRALIAN BALLOT

4 (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of 17 V.S.A. § 2680(a) and 16 V.S.A.
5 § 711e that require the voters of a school district to vote to apply the provisions
6 of the Australian ballot system to its annual meeting or special meetings, any
7 school district may apply the Australian ballot system to any or all of its annual
8 meeting and special meetings held in the 2020–2021 school year by vote of its
9 school board.

10 (b) The Secretary of State may waive statutory deadlines or other statutory
11 provisions, or provisions set forth in a school district’s articles of agreement,
12 related to a municipal election as necessary in order for a municipality to apply
13 the Australian ballot system in accordance with subsection (a) of this section.
14 This waiver authority applies to statutory provisions set forth in a municipal
15 charter or provisions set forth in a school district’s articles of agreement if the
16 waiver is requested by that municipality.

17 (c) As used in this section, “school district” means a school district, as
18 defined in 16 V.S.A. § 11(11), or a regional career technical center school
19 district, as defined in 16 V.S.A. § 1571.

20 Sec. 6. 2020–2021 SCHOOL YEAR; WAIVER OF ONLINE TEACHING

21 ENDORSEMENT

1 Notwithstanding 16 V.S.A. § 1694, for the 2020–2021 school year, the
2 Standards Board for Professional Educators (SBPE) shall waive its
3 requirement for a teacher to hold an endorsement for online teaching in order
4 to teach online or implement remote learning.

5 Sec. 7. ELECTIONS; UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

6 (a) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the election of a
7 director on the board of a unified union school district who is to serve on
8 the board after expiration of the term for an initial director shall be held at the
9 unified union school district’s annual meeting unless otherwise provided in the
10 district’s articles of agreement.

11 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, if
12 a vacancy occurs on the board of a unified union school district and
13 the vacancy is in a seat that is allocated to a specific town, the clerk of the
14 unified union school district shall immediately notify the selectboard of the
15 town. Within 30 days after the receipt of that notice, the unified
16 union school district board, in consultation with the selectboard, shall appoint a
17 person who is otherwise eligible to serve as a member of the unified
18 union school district board to fill the vacancy until an election is held at an
19 annual or special meeting unless otherwise provided in accordance with the
20 unified union school district’s articles of agreement.

21 (c) This section is repealed on July 1, 2022.

1 Sec. 8. EFFECTIVE DATE

2 This act shall take effect on passage.