

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21

H.44

Introduced by Representatives Manwaring of Wilmington, Batchelor of  
Derby, Beck of St. Johnsbury, Berry of Manchester, Beyor of  
Highgate, Browning of Arlington, Burditt of West Rutland,  
Canfield of Fair Haven, Carr of Brandon, Christie of Hartford,  
Clarkson of Woodstock, Conquest of Newbury, Cupoli of  
Rutland City, Dakin of Chester, Dame of Essex, Donahue of  
Northfield, Evans of Essex, Fagan of Rutland City, Feltus of  
Lyndon, Fiske of Enosburgh, Frank of Underhill, Gamache of  
Swanton, Graham of Williamstown, Greshin of Warren, Hebert  
of Vernon, Higley of Lowell, Hooper of Montpelier, Hubert of  
Milton, Juskiewicz of Cambridge, LaClair of Barre Town,  
LaLonde of South Burlington, Lanpher of Vergennes, Lawrence  
of Lyndon, Lenes of Shelburne, Lewis of Berlin, Lucke of  
Hartford, Macaig of Williston, Martel of Waterford, McFaun of  
Barre Town, Miller of Shaftsbury, Morrissey of Bennington,  
Murphy of Fairfax, Myers of Essex, Nuovo of Middlebury,  
Olsen of Londonderry, Patt of Worcester, Poirier of Barre City,  
Purvis of Colchester, Quimby of Concord, Ram of Burlington,  
Russell of Rutland City, Savage of Swanton, Scheuermann of  
Stowe, Sheldon of Middlebury, Sabilia of Dover, Strong of

1 Albany, Stuart of Brattleboro, Toleno of Brattleboro, Townsend  
2 of South Burlington, Troiano of Stannard, Van Wyck of  
3 Ferrisburgh, Walz of Barre City, Willhoit of St. Johnsbury,  
4 Wright of Burlington, Yantachka of Charlotte, Young of  
5 Glover, and Zagar of Barnard

6 Referred to Committee on

7 Date:

8 Subject: Education; education property taxes; mandates; moratorium

9 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to impose a  
10 moratorium through June 30, 2016, on any new legislation that would increase  
11 education property tax rates.

12 An act relating to a moratorium on legislation increasing education property  
13 tax rates

14 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

15 Sec. 1. EDUCATION PROPERTY TAX RATE INCREASES;

16 MORATORIUM

17 (a) Notwithstanding 16 V.S.A. § 4028(d) and 2 V.S.A. § 502(b)(2), the  
18 Joint Fiscal Office (JFO) shall prepare a fiscal note for any legislation  
19 proposed during the 2015–2016 biennium that JFO believes may have the  
20 effect of increasing the education property tax rate, regardless of whether the

1 proposed legislation includes a related appropriation or funding mechanism.  
2 JFO shall complete the fiscal note no later than the date on which the  
3 legislation is considered for a vote of a committee, the House, or the Senate,  
4 whichever is earliest.

5 (b) If the fiscal note prepared under this section confirms that the proposed  
6 legislation shall have the effect of increasing the education property tax rate,  
7 then the proposed legislation as then-drafted shall be withdrawn from  
8 consideration and shall not be voted upon by any committee, the House, or the  
9 Senate, as applicable.

10 (c) This section shall not apply to legislation annually establishing the base  
11 education amount pursuant to 16 V.S.A. chapter 133 or the tax rate pursuant to  
12 32 V.S.A. § 5402.

13 (d) This section is repealed on July 1, 2016.

14 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

15 This act shall take effect on passage.