This act summary is provided for the convenience of the public and members of the General Assembly. It is intended to provide a general summary of the act and may not be exhaustive. It has been prepared by the staff of the Office of Legislative Counsel without input from members of the General Assembly. It is not intended to aid in the interpretation of legislation or to serve as a source of legislative intent.

## Act No. 35 (S.16). Education; exclusionary discipline

## An act relating to the Task Force on Equitable and Inclusive School Environments

This act creates the Task Force on Equitable and Inclusive School Environments, which shall make recommendations to end suspensions and expulsions for all but the most serious student behaviors and compile data regarding school discipline in Vermont public and approved independent schools in order to inform strategic planning, guide statewide and local decision making and resource allocation, and measure the effectiveness of statewide and local policies and practices.

This act also prohibits a student enrolled in a public school who is under eight years of age from being suspended or expelled from the school; provided, however, that the school may suspend or expel the student if the student poses an imminent threat of harm or danger to others in the school.

In addition, this act requires reporting on referrals of truancy to the State's Attorneys.

Effective Date: May 18, 2021