

1 H.650

2 Introduced by Representative Mook of Bennington

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Education; technical centers; tuition; full-time equivalent enrollment;  
6 technical education degree

7 Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to permit the Southwest Vermont  
8 Career Development Center to enroll students on a space-available basis from  
9 the New York or Massachusetts portion of the Bennington regional labor  
10 market at a tuition equal to the local share of the tuition assessed for a student  
11 who resides in Vermont. It also permits a student to enroll in technical  
12 education courses outside the regular school day or school year and allows the  
13 sending district to calculate the student's total attendance as being in excess of  
14 1.0 full-time equivalent. In addition, it would allow technical centers that are  
15 serving as independent districts to award a technical education degree,  
16 provided the degree is not awarded in lieu of another secondary or  
17 postsecondary degree or certification. Finally, it would require a working  
18 group to develop ways to simplify and shorten the process by which technical  
19 education programs receive approval.

1           An act relating to technical center tuition, full-time equivalent enrollment,  
2           and the award of a technical education degree

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

4           Sec. 1. SOUTHWEST VERMONT CAREER DEVELOPMENT CENTER;  
5                       TUITION CHARGES TO NEW YORK AND MASSACHUSETTS  
6                       STUDENTS IN THE BENNINGTON REGIONAL LABOR  
7                       MARKET

8           Notwithstanding 16 V.S.A. § 1552 or any other provision of law to the  
9           contrary, the Southwest Vermont Career Development Center may enroll, on a  
10          space available basis, a student who resides within the New York or  
11          Massachusetts portion of the Bennington regional labor market, as defined by  
12          the commissioner of employment and training. The center shall assess a  
13          sending New York or Massachusetts school district per-pupil tuition in an  
14          amount equal to the tuition charged for a Vermont student under subsection  
15          1552(c) of Title 16; provided, however, if the additional cost to the center to  
16          educate the out-of-state student exceeds the assessment, then the center shall  
17          charge the student's sending district for the additional amount as well.

18          Sec. 2. 16 V.S.A. § 1552(e) is added to read:

19               (e) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary:

20                       (1) a student residing in Vermont who is unable to access technical  
21                       center courses during the regular school day or school year may enroll in those  
22                       courses if they are available outside the regular school day or school year;

1           (2) the technical center shall charge the sending school district tuition in  
2           an amount proportionate to the tuition charged for a student enrolled in the  
3           center during the regular school day or school year; and

4           (3) the sending school district may calculate the student's combined  
5           attendance at the technical center and sending school as exceeding 1.0  
6           full-time equivalent if appropriate, but in no case shall the full-time equivalent  
7           be considered greater than 1.25.

8           Sec. 3. STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION RULES

9           The state board of education shall amend its rules, including rule 2389, to  
10          conform to Sec. 2 of this act.

11          Sec. 4. 16 V.S.A. § 1576(d) is added to read:

12          (d) A technical center governed by a structure adopted under this  
13          subchapter may issue a technical education degree to a student who meets or  
14          exceeds criteria established by that center; provided the degree shall not be  
15          awarded in lieu of a high school diploma or postsecondary certification or  
16          degree.

17          Sec. 5. TECHNICAL EDUCATION; NEW PROGRAM APPROVAL

18          (a) In order to ensure a sufficient number of trained workers to meet the  
19          needs of the state's regional labor markets, the commissioner of education, the  
20          president of the Vermont association of career and technical center directors,  
21          and the executive director of the workforce development council (collectively

1 “the working group”) shall examine the process by which the commissioner  
2 grants approval to new technical education programs and determine ways in  
3 which the process can be simplified and shortened.

4 (b) On or before January 15, 2011:

5 (1) The working group shall report to the house and senate committees  
6 on education, the house committee on commerce and economic development,  
7 and the senate committee on economic development, housing and general  
8 affairs regarding its recommendations and submit proposals for related  
9 legislation, if any.

10 (2) The state board of education shall initiate the process to amend its  
11 rules to simplify and shorten new program approval.

12 Sec. 6. EFFECTIVE DATE

13 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2010, and shall apply to enrollment  
14 occurring on or after that date.