

1 S.68

2 Introduced by Senators Kittell, Choate, Giard, McCormack, Miller and Racine

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Education; school districts; high school completion program

6 Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to expand eligibility for the state's
7 high school completion program so that a student enrolled in high school may
8 participate in the program.

9 An act relating to expanding eligibility for the state's high school
10 completion program

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

12 Sec. 1. 16 V.S.A. § 1049a is amended to read:

13 § 1049a. HIGH SCHOOL COMPLETION PROGRAM

14 (a) In this section:

15 (1) "Graduation education plan" means a written plan leading to a high
16 school diploma for a person who is 16 to 22 years of age, and has not received
17 a high school diploma, ~~and is not~~ who may or may not be enrolled in a public
18 or approved independent school. The plan shall define the scope and rigor of
19 services necessary for the student to attain a high school diploma, and may
20 describe educational services to be provided by a public high school, an

1 approved independent high school, an approved provider, or a combination of
2 these.

3 (2) "Approved provider" means an agency entity approved by the
4 commissioner to provide educational services which may be counted for credit
5 toward a high school diploma.

6 (3) "Contracting agency" means an agency that has entered into a
7 contract with the department of education to provide adult education services
8 in Vermont.

9 (b) ~~The commissioner shall assign~~ If a student who wishes to work on a
10 graduation education plan is not enrolled in a public or approved independent
11 school, then the commissioner shall assign the student to a high school district,
12 which shall be the district of residence whenever possible. ~~Upon assignment,~~
13 ~~the~~ The school district in which the student is enrolled or to which he or she
14 has been assigned shall work with ~~an agency which has entered into contract~~
15 ~~with the department of education to provide adult education services in~~
16 ~~Vermont~~ the contracting agency and the student to develop a graduation
17 education plan. The school district shall award a high school diploma upon
18 successful completion of the plan.

19 (c) The commissioner shall reimburse, and net cash payments where
20 possible, a ~~town school district, city school district, union school district,~~
21 ~~unified union school district, incorporated school district, or member school~~

1 ~~district of an interstate school district which~~ that has agreed to a graduation
2 education plan in an amount:

3 (1) established by the commissioner for development of the graduation
4 education plan and for other educational services typically provided by the
5 district or an approved independent school pursuant to the plan, such as
6 counseling, health services, participation in ~~co-curricular~~ cocurricular
7 activities, and participation in academic or other courses, but which shall be
8 available only to a school district to which a nonenrolled student has been
9 assigned; and

10 (2) negotiated by the commissioner and the contracting agency ~~which~~
11 ~~has entered into contract with the department of education to provide adult~~
12 ~~education services in Vermont~~, with the approved provider, for services and
13 outcomes purchased from the approved provider on behalf of the student
14 pursuant to the graduation education plan.

15 (d) On or before January 30 of each year, ~~beginning in 2008~~, the
16 commissioner shall report to the senate and house committees on education on
17 the number of students participating in a graduation education plan, the
18 number completing a plan, and the amount paid. The commissioner shall
19 present the information organized by school district, approved independent
20 school, and approved provider.