

1 H.383

2 Introduced by Representative Crawford of Burke

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Education; elementary schools; designation

6 Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to permit towns that do not operate
7 an elementary school to designate a public school in another district or an
8 approved independent school as the public elementary school of the district.

9 An act relating to designation of public and approved independent
10 elementary schools

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

12 Sec. 1. 16 V.S.A. § 827a is added to read:

13 § 827a. DESIGNATION OF A PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL OR AN
14 APPROVED INDEPENDENT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AS THE
15 SOLE PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL OF A SCHOOL
16 DISTRICT

17 (a) A school district not maintaining an approved public elementary school
18 in one or more grades may vote on such terms or conditions as it deems
19 appropriate to designate an approved independent school or a public school as
20 the public elementary school of the district for that grade or grades.

1 (b) Except as otherwise provided in this section, if the board of trustees or
2 the school board of the designated school votes to accept this designation, the
3 school shall be regarded as a public school for tuition purposes under
4 subsection 824(b) of this title, and the sending school district shall pay tuition
5 to that school only, until such time as the sending school district or the
6 designated school votes to rescind the designation.

7 (c) A parent or legal guardian who is dissatisfied with the instruction
8 provided at the designated school or who cannot obtain for his or her child the
9 kind of course or instruction desired there, or whose child can be better
10 accommodated in an approved independent or public elementary school nearer
11 his or her home during the next academic year, may request on or before
12 April 15 that the school board pay tuition to another approved independent or
13 public elementary school selected by the parent or guardian.

14 (d) The school board may pay tuition to another approved elementary
15 school as requested by the parent or legal guardian if in its judgment that will
16 best serve the interests of the pupil. Its decision shall be final in regard to the
17 institution the pupil may attend. If the board approves the parent's request, the
18 board shall pay tuition for the pupil in an amount not to exceed the least of:

19 (1) The statewide average announced tuition of Vermont union
20 elementary schools.

1 (2) The per-pupil tuition the district pays to the designated school in the
2 year in which the pupil is enrolled in the nondesignated school.

3 (3) The tuition charged by the approved nondesignated school in the
4 year in which the pupil is enrolled.

5 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

6 This act shall take effect on passage.