

1 TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

2 The Committee on Appropriations to which was referred House Bill  
3 No. 883 entitled “An act relating to expanded prekindergarten–grade 12 school  
4 districts” respectfully reports that it has considered the same and recommends  
5 that the bill as proposed to be amended by the Committee on Ways and Means  
6 as amended be further amended by inserting **five** new sections to be **Secs. 8**  
7 **through 12** and a related reader assistance heading to read:

8 \* \* \* Special Fund; Appropriations; Positions \* \* \*

9 Sec. **8**. PREKINDERGARTEN–GRADE 12 DISTRICT SPECIAL FUND

10 (a) There is created a special fund pursuant to 32 V.S.A. chapter 7,  
11 subchapter 5, comprising sums deposited into this account and interest  
12 accruing to the Fund. Any remaining balance at the end of the fiscal year shall  
13 be carried forward in the Fund.

14 (b) Monies in the Fund shall be available to the Agency of Education to be  
15 used to support the purposes of this act as follows:

16 (1) to support the work of the Agency to provide technical assistance to  
17 districts during the voluntary realignment process; [1 analyst; Sec. 9 below]

18 (2) to support the work of the State Board of Education during the  
19 voluntary realignment process and to review and prepare recommendations  
20 regarding the Statewide Realignment Plan; [1 analyst; see Sec. 9 below]

1           (3) to support the work of the Design Team created in Sec. 1, 16 V.S.A.  
2           § 4054, of this act to monitor the voluntary realignment process, to conduct  
3           public hearings and other public engagement activities, and to develop the  
4           preliminary and final Plans; [1 analyst & 1 clerical staff ; see Sec. 9 below]

5           (4) to contract for technical assistance from recognized experts on  
6           behalf of the Design Team, including for the services of a skilled facilitator  
7           with deep experience in public policy at the community and State levels for the  
8           ten or more public hearings preceding development of the preliminary  
9           Plan; and

10           (5) to reimburse up to \$20,000.00 in fees incurred by groups of districts  
11           during the voluntary realignment process pursuant to 2012 Acts and Resolves  
12           No. 156, Sec. 9.

13           (c) The fund shall be known as the Prekindergarten–Grade 12 District  
14           Special Fund.

15           Sec. 9. POSITIONS; AGENCY OF EDUCATION

16           The General Assembly authorizes the establishment of four new limited  
17           service positions in the Agency of Education in fiscal year 2015 as follows:

18           (1) one clerical position to provide assistance primarily to the Design  
19           Team created in Sec. 1 of this act; and

1           (2) three analyst positions to provide technical assistance to school  
2           districts during the voluntary realignment process and after adoption of the  
3           Statewide Realignment Plan, to the State Board, and to the Design Team.

4           Sec. **10.** TRANSFERS

5           (a) The sum of \$2,069,175.00 is transferred in fiscal year 2014 from the  
6           Supplemental Property Tax Relief Fund created by 32 V.S.A. § 6075 to the  
7           Prekindergarten–Grade 12 District Special Fund for use in fiscal years 2015  
8           and 2016.

9           (b) The sum of \$329,000.00 in unexpended monies appropriated to support  
10           the purposes of 2010 Acts and Resolves No. 153 and 2012 Acts and Resolves  
11           No. 156 is transferred in fiscal year 2014 and may be carried forward to fiscal  
12           year 2015 for the purpose of funding the positions and activities authorized  
13           under **Secs. 8 and 9** of this act.

14           Sec. **11.** PREKINDERGARTEN–GRADE 12 DISTRICT

15                    APPROPRIATIONS

16           The following sums are appropriated from the Prekindergarten–Grade 12  
17           District Special Fund to the Agency of Education in fiscal year 2015:

18                    (1) the sum of \$362,650.00 for personal services;

19                    (2) the sum of \$53,575.00 for operational expenses; and

20                    (3) the sum of \$351,000.00 for grant funding for districts.

1 Sec. **12**. EDUCATION ANALYST AND BUSINESS MANAGER

2 HANDBOOK

3 Secs. 8–11 of this act are intended to be in addition to, and to work in  
4 concert with, those sections of 2014 Acts and Resolves No. \_\_\_\_\_ (H.889)  
5 (education tax) regarding an education analyst who shall create tools and  
6 indicators for State and local education decision makers and a contract for  
7 development and completion of a uniform chart of accounts; an updated,  
8 comprehensive accounting manual, with related business rules, for school  
9 district business managers; related training programs; and specifications for  
10 school financial software.

11 and by renumbering the remaining section to be numerically correct.

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16 (Committee vote: \_\_\_\_\_)

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\_\_\_\_\_

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Representative \_\_\_\_\_

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FOR THE COMMITTEE