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MEMORANDUM

To: Rep. Donovan, Chair, House Committee on Education
From: Rep. Heath, Chair, House Committee on Appropriations
Date: May 1, 2014
Subject: Additional Section of Budget for Review

Upon further review of the Senate changes to the House passed version of H.885, there is one more section that I would like your committee to review. This section is also being sent to the House Committee on Health Care. Thank you.

Sec. E.312.2 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH; AHEC MATCHING GRANT FUNDING

(a) In fiscal year 2014, prior to depositing any new funds into the Higher Education Trust Fund pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 2885(a)(2), the sum of \$1,000,000 of the funds that would otherwise be deposited into that Fund shall be transferred to the Secretary of Administration and held for use by the Vermont Department of Health as a match for a four-year federal grant for which the Department is applying that would supplement the existing Vermont educational loan repayment program for health care professionals. The funds shall be appropriated in the budget adjustment process as necessary to meet match requirements of the grant.

(b) This transfer is to take advantage of federal funds which will help address a shortage of medical professionals in Vermont by creating loan repayment resources. In the event that the grant cited in subsection (a) is not received, the funds shall be deposited in the Higher Education Trust Fund in accordance with 16 V.S.A. § 2885(a)(2).