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**Tuition study language**

Sec. XX. SCHOOL TUITION STUDY COMMITTEE

(a) Creation. There is created a School Tuition Study Committee to examine tuition costs paid by towns who send students to outside districts, and the impact of these payments on the State.

(b) Membership. The Committee shall be composed of the following five members:

(1) Two current members of the House of Representatives, not all from the same political party, who shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House;

(2) Two current members of the Senate, not all from the same political party, who shall be appointed by the Committee on Committees;

(3) One person appointed by the Governor.

(c) Powers and duties. The Committee shall study the tuition costs paid by towns, and the impact on the State from such costs, including the following issues:

(1) the impact of declining enrollments on Vermont schools and the role of tuition payments in lowering Vermont pupil counts;

(2) whether tuition rates should be capped for public schools at the same level as they are capped for independent schools;

1           (3) whether tuition rates should be capped or eliminated for Vermont  
2           students attending school in other states, and if so, whether there should be  
3           certain exceptions, such as cross-border districts or designated schools; and

4           (4) the fiscal impact of capping or eliminating tuition rates.

5           (d) Assistance. The Committee shall have the administrative, technical,  
6           and legal assistance of the Office of Legislative Council, the Joint Fiscal  
7           Office, the Department of Taxes, and the Agency of Education.

8           (e) Report. On or before January 15, 2015, the Committee submit a report  
9           to General Assembly with its findings and any recommendations for legislative  
10           action.

11           (f) Meetings.

12           (1) The Committee shall select a chair from among its members at the  
13           first meeting. A majority of the members of the Committee shall be physically  
14           present at the same location to constitute a quorum. A member may vote only  
15           if physically present at the meeting location. Action shall be taken only if there  
16           is both a quorum and a majority vote of the members physically present and  
17           voting.

18           (4) The Committee shall meet no more than six times and shall cease to  
19           exist on January 16, 2015.

20           (g) Reimbursement.

1           (1) For attendance at meetings during adjournment of the General  
2           Assembly, legislative members of the Committee shall be entitled to per diem  
3           compensation and reimbursement of expenses pursuant to 2 V.S.A. § 406 for  
4           no more than six meetings.

5           (2) Other members of the Committee who are not employees of the State  
6           of Vermont and who are not otherwise compensated or reimbursed for their  
7           attendance shall be entitled to compensation pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 1010 for  
8           no more than six meetings.

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