



**STATE OF VERMONT**  
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HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

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**MEMORANDUM**

To: Rep. Donovan, Chair, House Committee on Education  
From: Rep. Heath, Chair, House Committee on Appropriations  
Date: April 30, 2014  
Subject: Review of Senate Changes to the Budget

The Conference Committee on the budget has been appointed and is in the process of reviewing provisions added, deleted, or changed by the Senate. It would be very helpful if you could review the sections below and provide me with your feedback by 1 p.m. on Tuesday, May 6th, or earlier if possible. Thank you for your help with these issues.

Sec. E. 605.1 VERMONT STUDENT ASSISTANCE CORPORATION COLLEGE  
ASPIRATION PILOT PROPOSAL

(a) Of the funds appropriated in Sec. B605 of this act, the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation (VSAC) shall use \$300,000 to establish a College Aspiration Pilot Initiative in consultation with the Vermont States Colleges and the University of Vermont. The initiative shall select up to three public secondary schools to participate in the initiative that:

(1) are located in a county in which there is a significant difference between the college aspiration rates of secondary school graduates whose parents have a four-year postsecondary degree and graduates whose parents do not; and

(2) are not currently receiving VSAC GEAR UP (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs) program services for a cohort of the school's students whose parents do not have a postsecondary degree.

(b) VSAC shall report on the progress of the initiative to the legislative committees of jurisdiction by January 15, 2015.

Sec. E. 605.2 NEED BASED STIPEND FOR DUAL ENROLLMENT AND EARLY  
COLLEGE STUDENTS

(a) Of the funds appropriated in Sec. B605 of this act, \$110,891 shall be used to fund a flat-rate stipend or voucher program for financially needy students enrolled in a dual enrollment course or in early college to be used for the purchase of books, transportation costs, and payment of fees. The Vermont Student Assistance Corporation shall establish the criteria for program

eligibility. Funds shall be granted to eligible students on a first-come, first-served basis funds are depleted.

(b) VSAC shall report on the progress of the initiative to the legislative committees of jurisdiction by January 15, 2015.