

1 **NOTE:** This draft includes proposals offered by Rep Peltz **and** proposals  
2 offered by Rep Buxton **and** some amendments offered as questions from  
3 Legislative counsel. **In addition**, for purposes of reference, this draft includes  
4 language in S.40 as Passed by the Senate that would **not** be included in your  
5 final amendment.

6  
7 TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

8 The Committee on Education to which was referred Senate Bill No. 40  
9 entitled “An act relating to establishing an interim committee that will develop  
10 policies to restore the 1980 ratio of state funding to student tuition at Vermont  
11 State Colleges and to make higher education more affordable” respectfully  
12 reports that it has considered the same and recommends that the House propose  
13 to the Senate that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting  
14 clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

15 Sec. 1. INTERIM STUDY OF HIGHER EDUCATION FUNDING; **REPORT**

16 (a) The higher education subcommittee of the Prekindergarten-16 Council  
17 established in 16 V.S.A. § 2905, together with one currently enrolled student  
18 from each of the five Vermont State Colleges and the University of Vermont  
19 selected by each institution’s student government association, shall study and  
20 develop proposed policies to make the State Colleges and the University more

1 affordable for Vermont residents by lowering costs and restoring the 1980 ratio  
2 of State funding to tuition costs.

3 (b) In addition to the members of the higher education subcommittee  
4 identified in 16 V.S.A. § 2905(d), the following individuals shall be members  
5 of the subcommittee solely for purposes of this interim study:

6 (1) one faculty member of the University of Vermont to be appointed by  
7 United Professions American Federation of Teachers Vermont;

8 (2) one faculty member and one staff member of the Vermont State  
9 Colleges to be appointed by United Professions American Federation of  
10 Teachers Vermont; and

11 (3) two students, one from the University of Vermont and one from the  
12 Vermont State Colleges, appointed by their respective student government  
13 associations;

14 (e) Powers and duties.

15 (1) The subcommittee shall develop **proposed** policies to:

16 (A) lower student and family costs and debt so that Vermont colleges  
17 **and the University** are more affordable for Vermonters; and

18 (B) return to the 1980 level of state funding to student tuition support  
19 ratio.

20 (2) In developing **these the proposed** policies, the subcommittee shall  
21 consider:

1           (A) higher education funding for state colleges and universities in  
2           other states, with a particular focus on tuition ratios and funding methods;

3           (B) the best policies for increasing the enrollment of Vermont  
4           students and keeping students in Vermont after they graduate from college;

5           (C) administrative as compared to instructional costs spending, and  
6           how institutional spending impacts student costs;

7           (D) the portability of Vermont Student Assistance Corporation  
8           funds; and

9           (E) how to minimize the financial impact of living expenses on  
10           student costs; and

11           (F) any information available from the State Colleges and the  
12           University regarding the impact of Vermont State College and University of  
13           Vermont graduates on Vermont's economy and on job creation and retention.

14           (d) On or before January 15, 2015, the subcommittee shall report to the  
15           General Assembly on its findings and any recommendations for legislative  
16           action.

17           (e) The subcommittee may meet no more than six times between July 1,  
18           2014 and January 15, 2015 for the purposes of this interim study. For  
19           attendance at meetings during adjournment of the General Assembly,  
20           legislative members of the subcommittee shall be entitled to compensation and  
21           reimbursement for expenses under 2 V.S.A. § 406, and other members of the

1 subcommittee who are not employees of the State of Vermont may be  
2 reimbursed at the per diem rate under 32 V.S.A. § 1010 if not otherwise  
3 compensated or benefited.

4 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

5 This act shall take effect on passage.

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7 (Committee vote: \_\_\_\_\_)

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\_\_\_\_\_

9

Representative \_\_\_\_\_

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FOR THE COMMITTEE