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1	H.883 – Community Conversation
2	Representatives Toleno of Brattleboro, Conquest of Newbury, and Stevens
3	of Shoreham move that the bill be amended by striking out all after the
4	enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:
5	Sec. 1. COMMUNITY CONVERSATION; REPORT
6	(a) Facilitator; appropriation. The sum of \$200,000.00 is transferred in
7	fiscal year 2014 to the Joint Fiscal Office from the special fund created by
8	32 V.S.A. § 6075 to enter into a contract with a neutral facilitator with deep
9	experience in public policy at the community and State levels to conduct a
10	statewide dialogue about the future of education in Vermont as set forth more
11	fully in this section.
12	(b) Community meetings. The facilitator shall convene no fewer than 25
13	community meetings throughout the State, designed to elicit thoughtful
14	testimony on the strengths and weaknesses of, opportunities for, and threats to
15	Vermont's education system. At the community meetings, the facilitator shall:
16	(1) present an overview of the objectives and fundamental features of a
17	21st Century learning model, including testimony from current Vermont
18	secondary students;
19	(2) solicit public comments that identify individual and community
20	visions, values, and goals relating to Vermont's education system.

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1	(c) Targeted meetings. The facilitator shall conduct additional, targeted
2	meetings of identified stakeholders, including youths; parents of students;
3	teachers; principals; school board members; superintendents and administrative
4	staff; municipal boards and staff; business leaders; social service and nonprofit
5	leaders; ethnically diverse populations; economically diverse Vermonters; arts
6	and cultural leaders; representatives of higher education; the Agency of
7	Education and other State employees; alternative and independent school
8	leaders, parents, and youths; and experts in technology, curriculum, and
9	innovation in education.
10	(d) Analysis and recommendations. The facilitator shall reflect upon
11	public comments; identify and evaluate pertinent educational research and
12	related models; identify themes; and develop a proposed description of the
13	State's vision for the characteristics and delivery of prekindergarten through
14	grade 12 education in Vermont and recommendations for achieving the vision.
15	The recommendations shall include:
16	(1) strategies to enhance educational opportunities for all Vermont
17	students; and
18	(2) any necessary related changes to Vermont's education funding and
19	governance systems.
20	(e) The facilitator shall convene a Process Team of 15 to 20 community
21	leaders representing the regions, demographics, and diversity of Vermont to

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1	advise and provide guidance during the process required by this section. The
2	facilitator shall meet with the Team at least monthly to report on work
3	completed to date and plans for future activity and to receive comments and
4	suggestions from the Team. Members of the Team shall be entitled to
5	reimbursement of mileage for attendance at meetings.
6	(f) The facilitator shall seek additional funding sources as necessary to
7	complete the work required by this section.
8	(g) On or before January 15, 2016, the facilitator shall deliver a report to
9	the General Assembly that is representative of the testimony received and that
10	identifies the vision, values, goals, and strategies for enhancing student
11	opportunities pursuant to subsection (d) of this section.
12	Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE