

1 H.480

2 Representative Christie of Hartford moves that the bill be amended by  
3 inserting after Sec. 8, four new sections to be Secs. 9, 10, 11, and 12, to read as  
4 follows:

5 \* \* \* Expanded Learning Opportunities \* \* \*

6 Sec. 9. FINDINGS

7 (a) Data collected nationally reveals that children and youth are most likely  
8 to be in or cause automobile accidents, commit crimes, be victims of crime, or  
9 engage in risky behavior between the hours of 3:00 and 6:00 p.m.

10 (b) Multiple national studies conclude that:

11 (1) students from families with low income regress academically and  
12 socially when they do not have access to the same types of learning  
13 experiences outside school hours and during the summer as more affluent  
14 students enjoy; and

15 (2) differences in math achievement attributable to family income were  
16 eliminated for students in kindergarten through 5th grade who were provided  
17 consistent, high-quality afterschool activities.

18 (c) Research and analysis conducted by Vermont Afterschool, Inc. in 2014  
19 estimates that for every dollar spent on quality ELOs, Vermont could realize  
20 \$2.18 in long-term savings and benefits.

1       (d) Twenty-four percent of Vermont kindergarten–grade 12 children are  
2       currently enrolled in ELOs.

3       (e) Only 14 percent of Vermont children who participate in an afterschool  
4       ELO qualify for the federal free and reduced price lunch program, compared to  
5       an average of 45 percent participation nationally.

6       (f) Thirty-three percent of parents of Vermont children who are not  
7       currently enrolled in an ELO report that they would enroll their child if a  
8       program were available. In addition, parents identify ELO program cost as one  
9       of the primary barriers to enrollment.

10      Sec. 10. 16 V.S.A. chapter 43 is added to read:

11               CHAPTER 43. EXPANDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

12               § 1641. DEFINITIONS

13               As used in this title:

14               (1) “Committee” means the Expanded Learning Opportunities  
15       Committee created by this chapter.

16               (2) “Expanded Learning Opportunity (ELO)” means a structured  
17       program designed to serve prekindergarten through secondary school-aged  
18       children and youth outside the school day and year on a regular basis,  
19       including before and after school and during the summer, by providing  
20       opportunities for personal, emotional, and academic growth for children and  
21       youth.

1           (3) “Program” means the Expanded Learning Opportunities Grant  
2           Program created by this chapter

3           § 1642. EXPANDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES COMMITTEE;

4           REPORT

5           (a) Creation; membership. There is created an Expanded Learning  
6           Opportunities Committee, to be composed of the following members:

7           (1) the Secretary of Education or designee;

8           (2) the Commissioner for Children and Families or designee;

9           (3) the Director of Vermont Afterschool, Inc. or designee;

10          (4) one current member of the House of Representatives, who shall be  
11          appointed by the Speaker of the House;

12          (5) one current member of the Senate, who shall be appointed by the  
13          Committee on Committees;

14          (6) one member who is a current or past superintendent with experience  
15          with afterschool programs in his or her district or supervisory union appointed  
16          by the Vermont Superintendents Association;

17          (7) one member who is a current or past **School Board member** with  
18          experience with afterschool programs in his or her district or supervisory union  
19          appointed by the Vermont School Boards Association;

1           (8) one member who is a current or past principal with experience with  
2 afterschool programs in his or her district or supervisory union appointed by  
3 the Vermont Principals' Association;

4           (9) two members appointed by the Prekindergarten–16 Council; and

5           (10) three members representing ELO programs that have been in  
6 operation since at least July 1, 2014, with one member to be appointed each by  
7 the Governor, the Speaker, and the Committee on Committees.

8           (b) Terms. Committee members shall serve staggered three-year terms  
9 commencing on January 1, or until the member's earlier resignation or  
10 removal, except for legislative members who shall be appointed to two-year  
11 terms that mirror their legislative terms. The respective appointing authority  
12 shall fill a vacancy for the remainder of any unexpired term. An appointed  
13 member shall not serve more than three full consecutive terms.

14           (c) Officers; subcommittees; rules. The Committee shall elect a chair from  
15 among its members. It may elect other officers, establish subcommittees, and  
16 adopt procedural rules as it determines necessary and appropriate to perform  
17 its work.

18           (d) Quorum; voting; meetings.

19           (1) A majority of all members shall constitute a quorum.

1           (2) Action is taken by the Committee if authorized by a majority of the  
2           members present and voting at any regular or special meeting at which a  
3           quorum is present.

4           (3) The Committee may permit any or all members to participate in a  
5           regular or special meeting by, or conduct the meeting through the use of, any  
6           means of electronic communication, by which all members participating may  
7           simultaneously or sequentially ***[Include? This relates to communicating via***  
8           ***online chat rooms]*** communicate with each other during the meeting. A  
9           member participating in a meeting by this means is deemed to be present in  
10           person at the meeting.

11           (e) Administrative support. The Agency of Education may provide  
12           administrative support to the Committee.

13           (f) Compensation. For attendance at meetings during adjournment of the  
14           General Assembly, legislative members of the Committee shall be entitled to  
15           compensation and reimbursement for expenses pursuant to 2 V.S.A. § 406.  
16           ***[Other members of the Committee who are not employees of the State of***  
17           ***Vermont and are not otherwise compensated for their attendance shall***  
18           ***receive per diem compensation and reimbursement of expenses pursuant to***  
19           ***32 V.S.A. § 1010. Remove?]***

20           (g) Report. Notwithstanding 2 V.S.A. § 20(d), the Secretary shall present a  
21           report prepared by the Committee to the House and Senate Committees on

1 Education and the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on  
2 January 15 annually regarding the Committee’s activities, applications  
3 received, and grants awarded under this chapter.

4 § 1643. EXPANDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES GRANT PROGRAM

5 (a) Program created. There is created an Expanded Learning Opportunities  
6 Grant Program that shall award grants for the purpose of increasing access to  
7 expanded learning opportunities throughout Vermont.

8 (b) Grants. Grants shall be available in the following three categories:

9 (1) The Agency may award grants upon the recommendation of the  
10 Committee to school districts or supervisory unions that operate an ELO  
11 program or that have contracted with an ELO program or a Licensed Child  
12 Care Center to provide expanded learning opportunities, or both. The  
13 Committee shall determine the award based upon the grant criteria established  
14 pursuant to subdivision (c)(1) of this section. If a grant recipient is contracting  
15 with an ELO program or Licensed Child Care Center that is not located in the  
16 school that the children enrolled in the program attend, then the grant recipient  
17 shall provide safe transportation from the school to the ELO program site, and  
18 may use grant funds to provide the transportation.

19 (2) The Agency may award grants upon the recommendation of the  
20 Committee to organizations providing technical assistance or professional

1 development opportunities to ELO programs. An award under this subdivision  
2 shall not exceed \$300,000.00 annually to any one recipient.

3 (3) The Agency may award grants upon the recommendation of the  
4 Committee to community organizations in order to assess whether an ELO  
5 program is needed in the community, to determine how families might access  
6 an ELO program, or to explore opportunities for ELO partnerships in the  
7 community. An award under this subdivision shall not exceed \$5,000.00 to  
8 any one recipient.

9 (c) Duties of Committee. The Committee shall:

10 (1) develop all aspects of the Program, including an application process  
11 and the criteria for evaluating applications and for awarding grants and other  
12 incentives, such as professional development opportunities, for Expanded  
13 Learning Opportunities in Vermont;

14 (2) recommend to the Agency grants to be awarded from the Expanded  
15 Learning Opportunities Special Fund created in this chapter;

16 (3) pursue and accept grants or other funding from any public or private  
17 source for the purposes of this section, including federal funding through the  
18 Child Care Development Fund; and

19 (4) with the Agency, administer the grants or other funding consistent  
20 with the terms of acceptance.

1           (d) Matching funds. Grants awarded pursuant to subdivision (b)(1) or (2)  
2           of this section shall be made on a one-for-one matching basis; provided,  
3           however, that grant recipients may satisfy this requirement through in-kind  
4           support and through the use of 21st Century Community Learning Centers  
5           funds.

6           § 1644. VERMONT EXPANDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES SPECIAL  
7                           FUND

8           There is established a Vermont Expanded Learning Opportunities Special  
9           Fund comprising appropriations made by the General Assembly and grants,  
10           donations, and contributions from any other public or private source. Monies  
11           in the Fund shall be available to the Agency and Committee for the purposes of  
12           the Program created in this chapter. The Commissioner of Finance and  
13           Management may draw warrants for disbursements from this Fund in  
14           anticipation of receipts. The Fund shall be administered pursuant to  
15           32 V.S.A. chapter 7, subchapter 5, except that interest earned and any  
16           remaining balance at the end of the fiscal year shall be retained and carried  
17           forward in the Fund.

18           § 1645. DATA COLLECTION; ACCOUNTABILITY

19           (a) Each ELO program that is awarded grant funds pursuant to the Program,  
20           or that receives any other form of public funding, shall collect data on student  
21           participation and student outcomes pursuant to metrics established by the



1 Committee in connection with development of the criteria for evaluating  
2 applications and awarding grants. The ELO program shall report this data to  
3 the Agency annually at a time and in a format established by the Agency of  
4 Education.

5 (b) The Secretary of Education, in coordination with the Committee, shall  
6 develop three results-based accountability performance measures. All grantees  
7 shall report on these measures, and the data will be compiled by the Secretary  
8 annually for the fiscal year and submitted in the report required by section  
9 1642 of this title. These performance measures shall also be included in the  
10 Agency of Education’s Balanced Accountability Model.

11 Sec. 11. GRANT CRITERIA

12 (a) The Expanded Learning Opportunities Committee shall establish an  
13 application process and the criteria for evaluating applications and awarding  
14 grants. Criteria shall be designed to identify practices that support and  
15 encourage school-community partnerships; engaged learning; family  
16 involvement; intentional programming; a diverse, prepared staff; increased  
17 participation and access; safety, health, and wellness; and ongoing  
18 programmatic assessment and improvement.

19 (b) The Secretary of Education shall include in the report required on or  
20 before January 15, 2016 pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 1642(g) an update on the

1 application process and criteria established by the Committee described in  
2 subsection (a) of this section.

3 Sec. 12. COMMITTEE; INITIAL MEETING; INITIAL MEMBERSHIP

4 TERMS

5 (a) On or before September 1, 2015, the Secretary of Education shall  
6 convene the first meeting of the Expanded Learning Opportunities Committee.  
7 The Committee initially shall focus on creating grant criteria and seeking  
8 funding from private and other sources.

9 (b)(1) The term of the initial members appointed pursuant to Sec. 2 of this  
10 act, 16 V.S.A. § 1642(a)(6), (7) and (8) shall expire on January 1, 2017.

11 (2) The term of the initial members appointed pursuant to Sec. 2 of this  
12 act, 16 V.S.A. § 1642(a)(9) shall expire on January 1, 2019.

13 (3) The term of the initial members appointed pursuant to Sec. 2 of this  
14 act, 16 V.S.A. § 1642(a)(10) shall expire as follows:

15 (A) The term of the initial member appointed by the Governor shall  
16 expire on January 1, 2017.

17 (B) The term of the initial member appointed by the Speaker of the  
18 House shall expire on January 1, 2018.

19 (C) The term of the initial member appointed by the Committee on  
20 Committees shall expire on January 1, 2019.

21 and by renumbering the remaining sections to be numerically correct.