

1                                   \* \* \* Vermont Career Technical Education \* \* \*

2           Sec. C.11. VERMONT CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION

3           (a). Findings and intent.

4                   (1) The “on time” graduation rate for high school students in Vermont is  
5                   86.6% (2013).

6                   (2) The postsecondary continuation rate for 12th grade graduates is  
7                   approximately 60%. Many states have set a target of 80% for students  
8                   graduating from high school and transitioning to further education and/or  
9                   training.

10                   (3) According to the Vermont Department of Labor, in 2014 the total  
11                   number of people considered as “underutilized” labor in Vermont was 31,700.

12                   (4) Vermont’s workforce is aging, with 27.7% of all workers over the  
13                   age of 55.

14                   (5) According to a report issued by the McClure Foundation, with  
15                   assistance from the Vermont Department of Labor, Labor Market Information  
16                   Division, there are currently, and will be, many high wage, high skill job-  
17                   openings in Vermont between now and 2020.

18                   (6) Occupational projections for 2022 show a breakdown of occupations  
19                   by required educational attainment as follows: 64% of jobs will require a high  
20                   school diploma or less; 10% will require either an associates degree or some  
21                   other form of post-secondary education or training; 20% will require a

1 ~~bachelor's degree; and 6% will require higher than a bachelor's degree. These~~  
2 ~~are the basic educational requirements only and likely do not reflect what is~~  
3 ~~needed to advance in the position in skills and in pay.~~

4 (7) In order to support the ~~creation and~~ growth of high paid jobs in  
5 Vermont, we must provide our students with the needed education, skills, and  
6 competencies for these positions.

7 (8) Vermont's Career and Technical Education Centers (CTE's) are a  
8 key resource in preparing Vermonters for careers and meeting the workforce  
9 needs of Vermont employers.

10 (9) CTE learning is designed to prepare students to be ready for their  
11 next step, including further training, college, ~~and~~ jobs, and careers.

12 (10) Vermont's CTE's do not currently offer enough ~~high priority~~  
13 programs of study of the size, scope, and quality necessary to prepare high  
14 school students for these current and anticipated high skill, high wage, high  
15 demand job openings.

16 (11) Due to the demands and complexity of these jobs, CTE  
17 programming should provide new courses in a sequence from grades 9-12,  
18 ~~including dual enrollment,~~ with smooth transitions to postsecondary training  
19 ~~and/or~~ further education, ~~or both.~~

20 (12) There is an approved project within the Vermont Comprehensive  
21 Economic Development Strategies (CEDS) which identifies six high priority

1 cluster programs of study which the Agency of Education is currently  
2 implementing: Travel/Tourism and Business Systems (Culinary, Hospitality,  
3 Accounting, Management, Entrepreneurship); Manufacturing/Engineering  
4 (STEM); Construction/Green Building and Design; Agriculture, Local Food  
5 Systems, Natural Resources; Information Technology (Networking, Software  
6 Development, Website Design); Health/Medical.

7 (13) The CEDS project for high priority CTE programs of study will  
8 provide uniform high quality programs at the centers throughout the state.

9 (14) The Vermont Department of Labor, the Agency of Commerce and  
10 Community Development, the Agency of Education, and the Vermont State  
11 Colleges should collaborate more closely to develop high school CTE  
12 programs of study, including adult technical education programs, aligned with  
13 the needs of Vermont's employers.

14 (15) In some cases, the funding models for the CTE's act as a  
15 disincentive for school districts to send their students to regional technical  
16 centers.

17 (16) The purpose of this section is to direct the Department of Labor, the  
18 Agency of Commerce and Community Development, the Agency of  
19 Education, and the Vermont State Colleges to collaborate on how to better  
20 utilize Vermont's CTE's.

21 (b) Study and report.

1           (1) The Agency of Education, the Department of Labor, and the Agency  
2 of Commerce and Community Development shall ~~convene, develop~~  
3 ~~suggestions, and report continue their ongoing work to develop suggestions~~  
4 ~~and report to legislative committees of jurisdiction~~ on or before December 1,  
5 2015 to the House Committees on Commerce and Economic Development and  
6 on Education and the Senate Committees on Economic Development, Housing  
7 and General Affairs and on Education on how Vermont's ~~regional technical~~  
8 ~~education and career centers~~ CTE's can be better utilized to provide training  
9 aligned with high wage, high skills, high demand employment opportunities in  
10 Vermont, including:

11           (A) how the Agency of Education will develop priority pathway  
12 programs of study with regional CTE's in collaboration with the Department  
13 of Labor and the Agency of Commerce and Community Development;

14           (B) how these programs can include opportunities for post-secondary  
15 enrollment in apprenticeships, internships, approved training programs, and  
16 sub-baccalaureate programs, ~~in collaboration with the Department of Labor~~  
17 ~~and the Agency of Commerce and Community Development, and for adult~~  
18 technical education programs;

19           (C) how to assure equitable and appropriate access to CTE programs  
20 of study developed and implemented in grades 9 through 12;

1           (D) what barriers or challenges exist to the development and  
2           implementation of high quality priority pathways as described in the CEDS  
3           approved project; and

4           (E) one or more recommendations to address the financial  
5           disincentive for school districts to send students to the CTE's created by the  
6           CTE funding model.

7           ~~(2) The Agencies and Department shall notify the House Committees on~~  
8           ~~Commerce and Economic Development and on Education and the Senate~~  
9           ~~Committees on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs and on~~  
10          ~~Education of all meetings.~~