



STATE OF VERMONT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

January 12, 2016

Secretary Rebecca Holcombe
Vermont Agency of Education
219 North Main St. Ste. 402
Barre, Vermont 05641

Dear Secretary Holcombe:

This letter is an expression of legislative intent regarding Sec. 37 of Act No. 46 of 2015.

As you know, Sec. 37 contains the spending thresholds of Act 46, which were based on the structure of the then-current law excess spending penalty provisions. As with the excess spending penalty, it was our understanding that the threshold amounts in Sec. 37 would be calculated based on the definition of "education spending" that was reduced by the exclusions listed in 16 V.S.A. § 4001(6)(B). This threshold amount would then be added to the prior year's education spending, as reduced by § 4001(6)(B), and then compared to the current year education spending, as reduced by § 4001(6)(B). At each step in the process, we intended for the exclusions in 16 V.S.A. § 4001(6)(B) to be used when determining education spending.

We appreciate all the work your agency has done in implementing Act 46. We hope this letter serves as a reminder of how the General Assembly intended to proceed on this issue.

Sincerely,

Senator Ann Cummings

Representative David Sharpe