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H.361

Representatives Johnson of South Hero and Krebs of South Hero move that the bill be amended as follows:

First: After Sec. 35a and before the reader assistance by adding a new section to be Sec. 35b and related reader assistance to read:

\* \* \* Designation of Secondary Schools \* \* \*

Sec. 35b. 16 V.S.A. § 827 is amended to read:

§ 827. DESIGNATION OF A PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL OR AN APPROVED INDEPENDENT HIGH SCHOOL AS THE ~~SOLE~~ PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT

(a) A school district not maintaining an approved public high school may vote on such terms or conditions as it deems appropriate, to designate ~~an one or more~~ approved independent school or a or public school high schools as the public high school or schools of the district.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in this section, if the board of trustees or the school board of ~~the a~~ designated school votes to accept this designation, the school shall be regarded as a public school for tuition purposes under subsection 824(b) of this title, and the sending school district shall pay tuition only to that school only, and to any other school designated under this section, until such time as the sending school district or the designated school votes to rescind the designation.

1 (c) A parent or legal guardian who is dissatisfied with the instruction  
2 provided at ~~the~~ a designated school or who cannot obtain for his or her child  
3 the kind of course or instruction desired there, or whose child can be better  
4 accommodated in an approved independent or public high school nearer his or  
5 her home during the next academic year, may request on or before April 15  
6 that the school board pay tuition to another approved independent or public  
7 high school selected by the parent or guardian.

8 (d) The school board may pay tuition to another approved high school as  
9 requested by the parent or legal guardian if in its judgment that will best serve  
10 the interests of the student. Its decision shall be final in regard to the  
11 institution the student may attend. If the board approves the parent's request,  
12 the board shall pay tuition for the student in an amount not to exceed the  
13 least of:

14 (1) The statewide average announced tuition of Vermont union high  
15 schools.

16 (2) The per-pupil tuition the district pays to the designated school in the  
17 year in which the student is enrolled in the nondesignated school. If the district  
18 has designated more than one school pursuant to this section, then it shall be  
19 the lowest per-pupil tuition paid to a designated school.

20 (3) The tuition charged by the approved nondesignated school in the  
21 year in which the student is enrolled.

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Second: In Sec. 36 (effective dates), after subsection (z), by adding new  
3 subsection to be subsection (aa) to read:

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(aa) Sec. 35b (designation) shall take effect on effect on July 1, 2015.