

1 H.594

2 Representative Beck of St. Johnsbury moves that the bill be amended by
3 striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the
4 following:

5 Sec. 1. 2012 Acts and Resolves No. 156, Sec. 15 is amended to read:

6 Sec. 15. TWO OR MORE MERGERS; REGIONAL EDUCATION
7 DISTRICT INCENTIVES

8 (a) Notwithstanding Sec. 3(a)(1) of No. 153 of the Acts of the 2009
9 Adj. Sess. (2010) that requires a single regional education district (“RED”) to
10 have an average daily membership of at least 1,250 or result from the merger
11 of at least four districts, or both, two or more ~~new~~ districts, referred to in this
12 section as “side-by-side districts,” shall be eligible jointly for the incentives
13 provided in Sec. 4 of No. 153 if:

14 (1) either:

15 (A) each ~~new~~ side-by-side district is newly formed by the merger of
16 at least two existing districts; or

17 (B) one side-by-side district is newly formed by the merger of at least
18 three existing districts and the other side-by-side district is an existing district
19 not formed as a result of a merger;

1 (2) each ~~new~~ side-by-side district meets all criteria for RED formation
2 other than the size criterion of Sec. 3(a)(1) of No. 153 and otherwise as
3 provided in this section;

4 (3) ~~one of the new districts provides education in all elementary and~~
5 ~~secondary grades by operating one or more schools and the other new district~~
6 ~~or districts pay tuition for students in one or more grades~~ each side-by-side
7 district shall be responsible for the elementary and secondary education of
8 resident students;

9 (4) each ~~new~~ newly formed side-by-side district has the same effective
10 date of merger;

11 (5) the ~~new~~ side-by-side districts, ~~when merged,~~ are members of one
12 supervisory union; and

13 (6) the ~~new~~ side-by-side districts jointly satisfy the size criterion of
14 Sec. 3(a)(1) of No. 153.

15 **(b)** Each side-by-side district may operate schools for some or all grades or
16 may pay tuition for some or all grades in accordance with 16 V.S.A. § 824. If
17 a side-by-side district does not operate some or all secondary grades, it may
18 designate schools for those grades in accordance with 16 V.S.A. § 827.

19 **(c)** Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section to the contrary, the tax
20 incentives provided in Sec. 4 of No. 153 shall not be available to a side-by-side
21 district that was an existing district not formed as a result of a merger.

22 ~~(b)~~**(d)** This section is repealed on July 1, 2017.

1 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

2 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2016.