

1           (6) a progress update on implementation of the Program consistent with  
2           U.S. Treasury Department Rules, the Internal Revenue Code, and the federal  
3           ABLE Act (P.L. 113-295 of 2014).

4           \* \* \* Enhancing Eligibility and Work Incentives for the Medicaid for Working

5                                      Persons with Disabilities Program \* \* \*

6           Sec. C.9. MEDICAID FOR WORKING PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES;

7                                      RULEMAKING

8           (a) On or before October 1, 2015, the Agency of Human Services shall  
9           request permission from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services  
10           (CMS) in order to increase to \$10,000.00 per individual and \$15,000.00 per  
11           couple the asset limit for eligibility for the Medicaid for Working People with  
12           Disabilities program. Within 30 days following CMS approval of the  
13           increased asset limit, the Agency of Human Services shall commence the  
14           rulemaking process pursuant to 3 V.S.A. chapter 25 to amend its rules  
15           accordingly.

16           (b) On or before October 1, 2015, the Agency of Human Services shall  
17           request permission from CMS to disregard the income of a spouse who is a  
18           Medicaid for Working People with Disabilities beneficiary when calculating  
19           the eligibility of the other spouse to receive traditional Medicaid benefits.  
20           Within 30 days following CMS approval of the income disregard, the Agency

1 of Human Services shall commence the rulemaking process pursuant to  
2 3 V.S.A. chapter 25 to amend its rules accordingly.

3 (c) On or before October 1, 2015, the Agency of Human Services shall  
4 request permission from CMS to disregard the income of an applicant's or  
5 beneficiary's spouse when determining the applicant's or beneficiary's  
6 eligibility for the Medicaid for Working People with Disabilities program, after  
7 a determination has been made that the applicant's or beneficiary's net family  
8 income is below 250 percent of the federal poverty level for a family of the  
9 applicable size. Within 30 days following CMS approval of the income  
10 disregard, the Agency of Human Services shall commence the rulemaking  
11 process pursuant to 3 V.S.A. chapter 25 to amend its rules accordingly.

12 (d) On or before October 1, 2015, the Agency of Human Services shall  
13 request permission from CMS to disregard Social Security retirement income  
14 for the purpose of calculating eligibility for the Medicaid for Working People  
15 with Disabilities program for beneficiaries who have reached the Social  
16 Security retirement age and whose Social Security Disability Insurance  
17 benefits have automatically converted to Social Security retirement benefits.  
18 Within 30 days following CMS approval of the income disregard, the Agency  
19 of Human Services shall commence the rulemaking process pursuant to  
20 3 V.S.A. chapter 25 to amend its rules accordingly.

1       (e) The Agency of Human Services shall engage the assistance of benefits  
2       counselors at public and nonprofit organizations to increase public awareness  
3       of the Medicaid for Working People with Disabilities program and of other  
4       work incentives for individuals with disabilities.

5       (f) On or before January 15, 2016, the Agency of Human Services shall  
6       provide a report on the implementation of this section to the House  
7       Committees on Commerce and Economic Development and on Human  
8       Services and to the Senate Committees on Economic Development, Housing  
9       and General Affairs and on Health and Welfare.

10                   \* \* \* Vermont Career Technical Education \* \* \*

11       Sec. C.10. VERMONT CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION

12       (a). Findings and intent.

13               (1) The “on time” graduation rate for high school students in Vermont is  
14       86.6 percent (2013).

15               (2) The postsecondary continuation rate for 12th grade graduates is  
16       approximately 60 percent. Many states have set a target of 80 percent for  
17       students graduating from high school and transitioning to further education or  
18       training, or both.

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