

1 TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

2 The Committee on Education to which was referred Senate Bill No. 180  
3 entitled “An act relating to increasing General Fund appropriations to the  
4 Vermont State Colleges” respectfully reports that it has considered the same  
5 and recommends that the act be amended by striking out all after the enacting  
6 clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

7 \* \* \* Annual appropriation to Vermont State Colleges \* \* \*

8 Sec. 1. 16 V.S.A. § 2171(f) is added to read:

9 (f) For each fiscal year, the amount appropriated from the General Fund to  
10 the Vermont State Colleges, or successor under subsection (a) of this section,  
11 shall be increased by no less than that fiscal year’s percentage increase in the  
12 General Fund appropriation of transfer to the Education Fund under Sec.  
13 4025(a)(2) of this title.

14 \* \* \* Appropriation to Vermont State Colleges

15 for Education and Training Services Program \* \* \*

16 **Sec. 2. APPROPRIATION TO THE VERMONT STATE COLLEGES**  
17 **TO EXPAND EDUCATION AND TRAINING EVALUATION**  
18 **SERVICES PROGRAM**

19 The sum of up to \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is appropriated from the Next Generation Incentive  
20 Fund created pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 2887 to the Vermont State Colleges for  
21 the purpose of expanding the Colleges’ Education and Training Evaluation

1 Services Program. The Vermont State Colleges shall expand the program by  
2 evaluating educational and training programs for college credit, at no cost or at  
3 a reduced cost to the programs being evaluated. The Vermont State Colleges  
4 shall, on or before January 15, 2017, issue a report to the House and Senate  
5 Committees on Education describing how the funds appropriated pursuant to  
6 this section have been spent, how any remaining funds appropriated pursuant  
7 to this section will be spent, and the number and nature of the programs  
8 evaluated and the results of the evaluations.

9 \* \* \* Tuition for University of Vermont Students \* \* \*

10 Sec. 3. TUITION FOR VERMONT STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE  
11 UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT AND STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

12 (a) Notwithstanding the requirement of 16 V.S.A. § 2282(b), which states  
13 that a Vermont resident who is enrolled in the University of Vermont as a full-  
14 time undergraduate student shall not pay tuition in an amount that exceeds 40  
15 percent of the tuition charged to a nonresident student, the University may  
16 charge tuition in accordance with this section.

17 (b) The University may lower the tuition for non-resident students such that  
18 full-time undergraduate students who are resident in Vermont pay tuition in an  
19 amount that exceeds 40 percent of the tuition charged to a nonresident student.  
20 In the event this authority is used by the University, tuition for full-time  
21 undergraduate students who are resident in Vermont [may annually be

1 increased by half of the most recent Higher Education Price Index rate as of  
2 June 30] [IDENTIFIATION OF INDEX AND PERCENTAGE OF INDEX  
3 PERMITTED TO BE USED TO BE DETERMINED] and not increased  
4 beyond this amount until such time as the tuition charged to these students  
5 does not exceed 40 percent of the tuition charged to a nonresident student.

6 (c) The University shall, on or before January 15 of each year, issue a  
7 report to the House and Senate Committees on Education describing any  
8 changes to its tuition rates from its previous school year and the impact and  
9 projected impact of those changes on its funding and enrollment.

10 \* \* \* Appropriation to Vermont Higher

11 Education Endowment Trust Fund \* \* \*

12 Sec. 4. 16 V.S.A. § 2885 is amended to read:

13 § 2885. VERMONT HIGHER EDUCATION ENDOWMENT TRUST FUND

14 (a) A Vermont Higher Education Endowment Trust Fund is established in  
15 the ~~office~~ Office of the State Treasurer to comprise the following:

16 (1) appropriations made by the General Assembly;

17 (2) in any fiscal year in which a General Fund surplus exists and the  
18 General Fund Stabilization Reserve is funded to its required statutory level,  
19 funds raised by the estate tax levied under 32 V.S.A. chapter 190 that are more  
20 than ~~425~~ 100 percent of the amount projected by the Emergency Board in the  
21 July annual forecast made pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 305a; and

1 (3) contributions from any other sources.

2 \* \* \*

3 \* \* \* Move Up 802 Program \* \* \*

4 **Sec. 5. MOVE UP PROGRAM**

5 (a) Program creation. There is created a statewide Move Up 802 Program to  
6 provide outreach, supportive advising, and up to five free courses toward a  
7 college degree to young Vermonters who have graduated from high school but  
8 have not continued on to college. The Program shall include college courses  
9 offered on the campus of an accredited public postsecondary institution. The  
10 Program may include online college courses or components.

11 (b) Appropriation. The sum of up to \$\_\_\_\_\_ is appropriated from the Next  
12 Generation Incentive Fund created pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 2887 to fund the  
13 Program for fiscal year 2017.

14 (c) Students.

15 (1) A Vermont resident who has completed grade 12 and has received a  
16 high school diploma is eligible to participate in the Program if:

17 (A) the student:

18 (i) is age 18 - 25; and

19 (ii) has completed the Governor's Career Readiness Program at the  
20 Community College of Vermont; and

1           (B) the postsecondary institution has determined that the student is  
2           sufficiently prepared to succeed in a postsecondary course, which can be  
3           determined in part by the assessment tool or tools identified by the  
4           participating postsecondary institution.

5           (2) An eligible student may enroll in up to five courses for which neither  
6           the student nor the student's parent or guardian shall be required to pay tuition.  
7           A student is not required to enroll in five courses in one semester but shall  
8           enroll in a minimum of one course in each consecutive semester in order to  
9           remain eligible for additional tuition-free courses.

10          (d) Public postsecondary institutions. The Vermont State Colleges and the  
11          University of Vermont shall work together to provide Move Up 802 Program  
12          opportunities throughout the State.

13          (1) The public postsecondary institution shall maintain the postsecondary  
14          academic record of each participating student and provide transcripts on  
15          request.

16          (2) To the extent permitted under the Family Educational Rights and  
17          Privacy Act, the public postsecondary institution shall collect and send data  
18          related to student participation and success to the Secretary of Education and  
19          shall send data to the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation necessary for  
20          the Corporation's federal reporting requirements.

1           (3) The public postsecondary institution shall accept as full payment the  
2           tuition set forth in subsection (f) of this section.

3           (e) Program management. The Community College of Vermont (CCV)  
4           shall manage or may contract for the management of the Move Up 802  
5           Program in Vermont by:

6           (1) marketing the Move Up 802 Program to Vermont students and their  
7           families including changing the name of the Program;

8           (2) assisting postsecondary partners to develop memoranda of  
9           understanding, when requested;

10           (3) convening regular meetings of interested parties to explore and  
11           develop improved student support services;

12           (4) coordinating the use of technology to ensure access and coordination  
13           of the Program;

14           (5) reviewing program costs;

15           (6) evaluating all aspects of the Move Up 802 Program and ensuring  
16           overall quality and accountability; and

17           (7) performing other necessary or related duties.

18           (f) Tuition and funding.

19           (1) Tuition shall be paid to public postsecondary institutions in Vermont  
20           as follows: [THE GOVERNOR’S PROPOSAL IS INCOMPLETE AND  
21           STOPS HERE; I HAVE ASKED FOR THE MISSING TEXT]

1                   \* \* \* VSAC GRANT PORTABILITY—OPTION 1—LIMITED  
2                                           GEOGRAPHICALLY \* \* \*

3           Sec. 6. 16 V.S.A. chapter 87, subchapter 3 is amended to read:

4                                           Subchapter 3. Incentive Grants

5           § 2841. ESTABLISHMENT; RULES

6           (a) A need-based grant program is hereby established to aid ~~students~~ an  
7           eligible Vermont resident student, as defined in subdivision (c)(1) of this  
8           section, who ~~need~~ needs financial assistance and;

9                   (1) ~~are~~ is pursuing undergraduate studies and ~~give~~ giving promise of  
10           completing satisfactorily a degree program; at an approved postsecondary  
11           education institution as defined in subdivision (c)(2) of this section; or

12                   (2) who ~~have~~ has been accepted for admission to an approved  
13           postsecondary education institution for undergraduate studies.

14           (b) The Board may establish rules, regulations, and standards for the  
15           awards under this subchapter.

16           (c) As used in this subchapter:

17                   (1) “approved postsecondary education institution” means either

18                                   (A) any Vermont college or university; or

19                                   (B) if an eligible Vermont resident student does not live within a

20           50-mile radius of any Vermont college or university, a postsecondary

1 education institution outside the State that is located within a 50-mile radius of  
2 the residence of the eligible Vermont resident student.

3 (2) “eligible Vermont resident student” means a student who satisfies  
4 the eligibility criteria set forth in Sec. 2842 of this title.

5 § 2842. ELIGIBILITY

6 (a)(1) To qualify for an incentive grant for the first year of undergraduate  
7 study, a ~~student must~~ person shall be a “student” who is “resident” in  
8 Vermont, as these terms are defined in Sec. 2822 of this title, and shall;

9 (A) be in attendance at an approved postsecondary education  
10 institution; or

11 (B) be accepted for admission and be enrolled as a full-time or  
12 part-time student at such an institution.

13 (2) For each year following the first year of undergraduate study, the  
14 student must have been certified by the institution attended to be in good  
15 standing and to give promise of satisfactory completion of a course of study  
16 leading to a degree or diploma.

17 (b) ~~Any qualified person may apply for an incentive grant in addition to~~  
18 ~~any other scholarship aid.~~ A student shall remain eligible for any other  
19 scholarship aid to which the student would be eligible notwithstanding the  
20 student’s receipt of an incentive grant under this sub-chapter.

21 \* \* \*



1 § 2846. NONDEGREE GRANTS

2 The Corporation may establish grant programs for residents pursuing  
3 nondegree education and training opportunities who do not meet the definition  
4 of student in subdivision 2822(3) of this title, and who may not meet the  
5 requirements of this subchapter. Nondegree grants may be used at institutions  
6 that are not approved postsecondary education institutions. The Corporation  
7 may adopt rules or establish policies, procedures, standards, and forms for  
8 nondegree grants, including the requirements for applying for and using the  
9 grants and the eligibility requirements for the institutions where the grants may  
10 be used. Eligible institutions shall, however, be limited to institutions located  
11 in Vermont or, if the resident does not live within a 50-mile radius of any  
12 Vermont institution which the Corporation determines would suit the  
13 resident’s needs, an institution outside the State that is located within a 50-mile  
14 radius of the resident.

15 \* \* \* VSAC GRANT PORTABILITY—OPTION 2—LIMITED BY

16 PROGRAMS AVAILABLE \* \* \*

17 This language would be the same as for Option 1, except that the definition of  
18 “approved postsecondary education institution” would be amended to read:

19 (c) As used in this subchapter:

20 (1) “approved postsecondary education institution” means either

21 (A) any Vermont college or university; or

1           (B) a postsecondary education institution outside the State, but only  
2 if the Corporation determines that the out-of-State institution offers an  
3 educational degree or academic program which is sought by the student and is  
4 either not offered by any Vermont college or university or is offered by a  
5 Vermont college or university but is not of the quality offered by the out-of-  
6 State institution, or the student has applied for but has been denied admission  
7 to at least one Vermont college or university offering the degree or academic  
8 program sought by the student.

9           and a conforming change would be to § 2846. NONDEGREE GRANTS.

10           \* \* \* VSAC GRANT PORTABILITY—OPTION 3—LIMITED BY INCOME

11                                               \* \* \*

12           This language would be the same as for Option 1, except that the definition of  
13           “approved postsecondary education institution” would be amended to read:

14           (c) As used in this subchapter:

15                       (1) “approved postsecondary education institution” means either

16                                       (A) any Vermont college or university; or

17                                       (B) a postsecondary education institution outside the State, but only

18 for students where the Corporation determines that the adjusted gross income  
19 of the student [and the student’s parents] is below \$50,000 for the [3] most  
20 recent tax years preceding application for the grant.

21           and a conforming change would be to § 2846. NONDEGREE GRANTS.

1                                   \* \* \* Complete College Program \* \* \*

2           Sec. 7. COMPLETE COLLEGE PROGRAM

3                   (a) Program creation. There is created the Complete College Program to  
4                   enable more first generation and low income Vermonters to obtain a college  
5                   education and allow the University of Vermont and the Vermont State  
6                   Colleges to improve their recruitment and support services for these  
7                   students. The goal of the program is to improve graduation rates of first  
8                   generation and low income Vermonters, narrow the inequality gap, reduce  
9                   social services costs over time, and expand the State's workforce.

10                   (b) Appropriation. The sum of up to \$3,000,000 is appropriated from the  
11                   [\_\_\_\_\_ Fund] for fiscal year 2017.

12                   (c) Eligible students.

13                   (1) A Vermont resident who has received a high school diploma or  
14                   equivalency certificate is eligible to participate in the Program if:

15                                   (A) neither of the student's parents have obtained a bachelor's degree;

16                   and

17                                   (B) the student is eligible for a federal Pell grant.

18                   (d) Amount of payments. The University of Vermont and the Vermont  
19                   State Colleges shall receive, on or before July 1 of each year, a payment from  
20                   the amount appropriated from the prior fiscal year based on the number of  
21                   eligible students, as defined in subsection (c) of this section, who graduated in

1 the prior academic year. The amount paid shall be \$1,500 for each eligible  
2 student who was awarded an associate's degree in the prior school year, and  
3 \$2,000 for each eligible student who was awarded a bachelor's degree in the  
4 prior school year. In the event that the payments owed to the University of  
5 Vermont and the Vermont State Colleges exceed the amount of the  
6 appropriation from the prior fiscal year, the payment per eligible student  
7 amounts set forth in this subdivision shall be reduced proportionally.

8 (e) Use of payments. The University of Vermont and the Vermont State  
9 Colleges shall use half of the payments received pursuant to this section to  
10 provide financial aid to eligible students, and shall use half of the payments  
11 received pursuant to this section to build support systems designed to allow  
12 first generation, low-income students to graduate from college in a timely  
13 fashion.

14 (f) The University of Vermont and the Vermont State Colleges shall, on or  
15 before October 1 of each year, issue a report to the House and Senate  
16 Committees on Education describing the amount received pursuant to this  
17 section from the prior fiscal year appropriation and the manner in which those  
18 funds were used.

19 Sec. 8. EFFECTIVE DATE

20 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.

21 (Committee vote: \_\_\_\_\_)

1  
2  
3  
4

\_\_\_\_\_

Senator \_\_\_\_\_

FOR THE COMMITTEE