

Summary of Higher Education Proposed Bills

1. **S.118. An act relating to remedial education for postsecondary students.** This bill proposes to require the Vermont State Colleges and the University of Vermont to report on students identified for remedial education and to require the Agency of Education, in collaboration with these institutions, to create a plan for lowering postsecondary remediation rates among Vermont's high school graduates.
2. **S.142. An act relating to portability of Vermont Student Assistance Corporation grants and scholarships.** This bill proposes to require that the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation award grants and scholarships solely for use at the Vermont State Colleges, at the University of Vermont, or at educational institutions in states that have executed a reciprocity agreement with Vermont.
3. **S.177. An act relating to the funding of the Higher Education Endowment Trust Fund.** This bill proposes to increase funding of the Higher Education Endowment Trust Fund by directing any estate tax surplus that is more than 100 percent.
4. **S.178. An act relating to proportional appropriations from the Higher Education Endowment Trust Fund.** This bill proposes to appropriate funds to the University of Vermont and the Vermont State Colleges from the Higher Education Endowment Trust Fund on a proportional basis based on the percentage of Vermont students in attendance at each institution.
5. **S.179. An act relating to the use of Vermont Student Assistance Corporation grants and scholarships.** This bill proposes to require that the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation award grants and scholarships primarily for use at any Vermont college or university; provided, however, that if there is no postsecondary education institution within 50 miles of a Vermont student's residence in the State of Vermont, then the funds may be used outside the State if there is a non-Vermont postsecondary education institution within that 50-mile radius.
6. **S.180. An act relating to increasing General Fund appropriations to the Vermont State Colleges.** This bill proposes to increase the annual General Fund appropriation to the Vermont State Colleges.
7. **S.181. An act relating to the State's financial support of the Vermont State Colleges.** This bill proposes statutorily to require the State to fund at least one-half of the Vermont State College's annual expenses and require the University of Vermont and State Agricultural College annually to report on administrative expenses.

8. **H.832. An act relating to attracting and retaining Vermont's next generation.**

This bill proposes to:

- create a National Guard Educational Assistance Program,
- expand awareness of the Reach Up postsecondary education program and to enhance the training of Reach Up caseworkers,
- create a Higher Education Cost and Opportunities Study Committee,
- create a Path to Reentry Study Committee,
- minimize the cost of textbooks,
- exempt textbooks from the Vermont sales tax,
- create an income tax deduction for tuition payments and student loans, and
- create a tax credit for apprenticeship training.