

1 H.439

2 Introduced by Representatives Ode of Burlington, Christie of Hartford, Cina  
3 of Burlington, Donovan of Burlington, Lefebvre of Newark,  
4 McFaun of Barre Town, O'Sullivan of Burlington, Poirier of  
5 Barre City, Potter of Clarendon, Rachelson of Burlington,  
6 Stuart of Brattleboro, Sullivan of Burlington, and Wright of  
7 Burlington

8 Referred to Committee on

9 Date:

10 Subject: Education; determination of weighted membership

11 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to increase the  
12 weighting factors that are used to determine the weighted long-term  
13 membership of school districts for secondary school students, students from  
14 economically deprived backgrounds, and students for whom English is not the  
15 primary language.

16 An act relating to the determination of weighted long-term membership of  
17 school districts

1 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

2 Sec. 1. PURPOSE

3 The purpose of this act is to increase the weighting factors that are used to  
4 determine the weighted long-term membership of school districts, for  
5 secondary school students, students who suffer from abuse, neglect, or family  
6 challenges due to adverse childhood experiences, and students for whom  
7 English is not the primary language. The State does not have a process to  
8 systematically assess students to determine whether they have adverse  
9 childhood experiences or to collect and report that information. In the absence  
10 of this information, this act increases the weighting factor for students from  
11 economically deprived backgrounds as a proxy for students who have adverse  
12 childhood experiences, with the expectation that once information on students  
13 with adverse childhood experiences becomes available, that factor will be  
14 weighted with a corresponding adjustment to the weighting factor for students  
15 from economically deprived backgrounds.

16 Sec. 2. 16 V.S.A. § 4010 is amended to read:

17 § 4010. DETERMINATION OF WEIGHTED MEMBERSHIP

18 (a) On or before the first day of December during each school year, the  
19 Secretary shall determine the average daily membership of each school district  
20 for the current school year. The determination shall list separately:

21 (1) resident prekindergarten children;

1           (2) resident students being provided elementary or kindergarten  
2 education; and

3           (3) resident students being provided secondary education.

4           (b) The Secretary shall determine the long-term membership for each  
5 school district for each student group described in subsection (a) of this  
6 section. The Secretary shall use the actual average daily membership over two  
7 consecutive years, the latter of which is the current school year.

8           (c) The Secretary shall determine the weighted long-term membership for  
9 each school district using the long-term membership from subsection (b) of  
10 this section and the following weights for each class:

11           Prekindergarten 0.46

12           Elementary or kindergarten 1.0

13           Secondary ~~1.13~~ 1.25

14           (d) The weighted long-term membership calculated under subsection (c) of  
15 this section shall be increased for each school district to compensate for  
16 additional costs imposed by students from economically deprived  
17 backgrounds. The adjustment shall be equal to the total from subsection (c) of  
18 this section, multiplied by ~~25~~ 50 percent, ~~and further multiplied by the poverty~~  
19 ~~ratio of the district.~~

