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S.135

Representatives Botzow of Pownal and Marcotte of Coventry move that the House propose to the Senate to amend the bill by inserting reader assistance and new Secs. E.3–E.4 to read:

* * * Heating Fuel and Service Workforce Training Pilot Project * * *

Sec. E.3. HEATING FUEL AND SERVICE WORKFORCE TRAINING
PILOT PROJECT

(a) Findings and purpose.

(1) Vermont’s heating fuel and heating service companies provide high-skill, high demand jobs, many of which do not require a college degree but pay over \$20 per hour and include benefits.

(2) Vermont’s heating fuel and heating service companies have a significant need for new employees. More than two-thirds of these companies report that there is a lack of qualified applicants for heating technician jobs, and more than half report a lack of qualified drivers.

(3) The purpose of this section is to create a partnership between the State and the industry to identify prospective employees, provide them with training and skills necessary for currently-available jobs, and provide employers with a skilled workforce.

(b) The Department of Labor, in collaboration with the regional Career Technical Education and Training Centers and the Vermont Fuel Dealers

1 Association, shall establish a Heating Fuel and Service Workforce Training
2 Pilot Project, consistent with the following:

3 (1) The Department and the CTE Centers shall:

4 (A) advertise the availability of workforce training in the field of
5 heating fuel and service;

6 (B) organize informational sessions, meetings, and other group and
7 individual opportunities for prospective trainees and interested heating and fuel
8 service companies to connect; and

9 (C) coordinate matches between trainees and employers.

10 (2) In the event of a successful match, the Department shall facilitate the
11 negotiation and execution of training and employment agreements, pursuant to
12 which:

13 (A) a prospective trainee agrees to pursue specified training,
14 education, or certification necessary to meet the employer's workforce need;

15 (B) the Department agrees to provide educational and administrative
16 support to the trainee and 50 percent of the cost of training; and

17 (C) the employer agrees to provide 50 percent of the cost of training
18 and employ the trainee upon the successful completion of training, passage of
19 an examination, attainment of a required certification, or a combination of
20 these.

1 (3) The Vermont Fuel Dealers Association, in collaboration with the
2 CTE Centers and subject to approval by the Department, shall provide
3 education and training that meet the needs of trainees and employers.

4 (c) The Department shall have the authority to use up to \$500,000.00 in
5 funding from the Workforce Education and Training Fund to implement the
6 provisions of this section.

7 (d) On or before January 15, 2018, the Department shall submit a report to
8 the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General
9 Affairs and the House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development
10 addressing the implementation of this section, the profile of trainees and
11 employers that participated, and any recommendations for further action.

12 * * * CTE Dual Enrollment; H.391 * * *

13 Sec. E.4. CTE DUAL ENROLLMENT MEMORANDA OF
14 UNDERSTANDING

15 Pursuant to 16 V.S.A. § 944(e), the Agency of Education shall assist the
16 University of Vermont and the Vermont State Colleges in developing
17 memoranda of understanding with each regional CTE center and each
18 comprehensive high school, as defined in 16 V.S.A. § 1522, to facilitate dual
19 enrollment under section 944 and the awarding of secondary and
20 postsecondary credits for career technical courses. The University of Vermont
21 and the Vermont State Colleges shall enter into memoranda of understanding,

1 as developed with the Agency, with each regional CTE center. The intent of
2 this act is to expand the recognition of dual enrollment credit for technical
3 career education courses by the University of Vermont and the Vermont State
4 Colleges. On or before January 15, 2018, the Secretary of Education shall
5 provide a progress report on the status of the memoranda of understanding to
6 the House and Senate Committees on Education, the House Committee on
7 Commerce and Economic Development, and the Senate Committee on
8 Economic Development, General Housing and General Affairs.

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