

Suggested changes to S.122 As Passed by the Senate

Amend Sec. 2 by adding

b) The provisions of Act 153, Sec. 4 shall apply only if the merger receives final approval of the electorate on or before November 30, 2017. This section is repealed on July 1, 2017 2019.

Amend Sec. 3 (Three-by-one Side-by-side) as follows

c) ~~The/Each Existing District~~ A district shall be exempt from the requirement under 2015 Acts and Resolves No. 46, Secs. 9 and 10 to self-evaluate and make a proposal to the Secretary of Education and State Board of Education and from the State Board's plan if it:

1) presents a proposal to be an Existing District to the State Board of Education as required by subdivision (a)(5):

(A) after the effective date of this section; and

(B) at the same time that the three districts present their proposal to be a Merged District;

2) demonstrates that it meets one or more of the criteria set forth in subdivision (a)(2) of this section;

3) demonstrates how the proposal supports the district's ability to meet or exceed each of the goals set forth in 2015 Acts and Resolves No. 46, Sec. 2 (Goals) and identifies detailed actions it proposes to take to continue to improve its performance in connection with each of the Goals as required by Sec. 9(a)(3)(B)-(C) of that Act; and

4) obtains the State Board's approval of its proposal to be an Existing District.

d) Notwithstanding the requirement in subdivision (c)(1) of this section that proposals to form both sides of a Three-by-One Side-by-side Structure be submitted to the State Board after the effective date of this section and at the same time, a structure that is eligible for the incentives and protections provided in subsections (b) and (c) of this section is formed if it meets all requirements of this section other than those in subdivision (c)(1) and if:

1) the Merged District:

(A) obtains final approval of the electorate under 16 V.S.A. 706d on or before the effective date of this section and

(B) is not yet operational

2) the district proposing to be the Existing District:

(A) submits the proposal to the State Board after the effective date of this section; and

(B) includes with the proposal a statement signed by the chair of the new board of directors of the Merged District stating that the board voted to support the individual district's proposal.

Amend Sec. 4 (Two-by-two-by-one Side-by-side) in the same manner as proposed for Sec. 3

Add Sec. __ (Statewide plan; Articles of Agreement)

(a) The final statewide education governance plan required by 2015 Acts and Resolves No. 46, Sec. 10(b), shall include Articles of Agreement to be used by all new unified union school districts created under the plan until the board of the new district votes to approve new or amended articles.

1) After the State Board of Education issues the statewide plan, districts subject to merger will have 90 days to form a study committee under 16 V.S.A. 706-(b) and to draft Articles of Agreement for the new district.

2) If the study committee formed above does not approve Articles of Agreement within the 90 days provided, the provisions in the Articles of Agreement included in the final statewide plan shall apply to the new district.