

1 TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

2 The Committee on Agriculture and Forestry to which was referred Senate
3 Bill No. 33 entitled “An act relating to the Rozo McLaughlin Farm-to-School
4 Program” respectfully reports that it has considered the same and recommends
5 that the House propose to the Senate that the bill be amended as follows:

6 First: In Sec. 1, in 6 V.S.A. § 4719, in subdivision (a)(5), after “Vermont
7 students in” and before “programs” by striking out the words “school meal”
8 and inserting in lieu thereof the words “child nutrition”

9 Second: In Sec. 1, by striking out 6 V.S.A. § 4721 in its entirety and
10 inserting in lieu thereof the following:

11 § 4721. LOCAL FOODS GRANT PROGRAM

12 (a) There is created in the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets the
13 Rozo McLaughlin Farm-to-School Program to execute, administer, and award
14 local grants for the purpose of helping Vermont schools develop
15 farm-to-school programs that will sustain relationships with local farmers and
16 producers, enrich the educational experience of students, improve the health of
17 Vermont children, and enhance Vermont’s agricultural economy.

18 (b) A school, a school district, a consortium of schools, ~~or~~ a consortium of
19 school districts, or registered or licensed child care providers may apply to the
20 Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets for a grant award to:

1 (1) fund equipment, resources, training, and materials that will help to
2 increase use of local foods in ~~the School Food Service Program~~ child nutrition
3 programs;

4 (2) fund items, including local ~~farm~~ food products, gardening supplies,
5 field trips to farms, gleaning on farms, and stipends to visiting farmers, that
6 will help ~~teachers~~ educators to use hands-on educational techniques to teach
7 children about nutrition and farm-to-school connections; and

8 (3) ~~provide~~ fund professional development and technical assistance, in
9 partnership with the Agency of Education and farm-to-school technical service
10 providers, to help teachers, child nutrition personnel, and members of the farm-
11 to-school community educate students about nutrition and farm-to-school
12 connections and assist schools and licensed or registered childcare providers in
13 developing a farm-to-school program.

14 (4) fund technical assistance or support strategies to increase
15 participation in federal child nutrition programs that increase the viability of
16 sustainable meal programs.

17 (c) The Secretaries of Agriculture, Food and Markets and of Education and
18 the Commissioner of Health, in consultation with farmers, ~~food service~~
19 ~~workers~~ child nutrition staff, and educators, and farm-to-school technical
20 service providers jointly shall ~~jointly~~ adopt ~~rules~~ procedures relating to the
21 content of the grant application and the criteria for making awards.

1 (d) The Secretary shall determine that there is significant interest in the
2 school community before making an award and shall give priority
3 consideration to schools ~~and~~, school districts and, registered or licensed child
4 care providers that are developing farm-to-school connections and education
5 that indicate a willingness to make changes to their child nutrition programs to
6 increase student access and participation and that are making progress toward
7 the implementation of the Vermont ~~nutrition and fitness policy guidelines~~
8 School Wellness Policy Guidelines developed by the Agency of Agriculture,
9 Food and Markets, the Agency of Education, and the Department of Health,
10 ~~dated November 2005~~ updated in June 2015 or of the successor of these
11 guidelines.

12 (e) No award shall be greater than \$15,000.00.

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17 (Committee vote: _____)

18 _____
19 Representative _____
20 FOR THE COMMITTEE