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**Sec. 3 rewrite of H.919**

\* \* \* Career Pathways \* \* \*

Sec. 1. CAREER PATHWAYS

(a) Definition. As used in this section, “career pathways” means a combination of rigorous and high-quality educational, training, and other experiences and services, beginning not later than seventh grade, that:

(1) at the secondary level, integrates the academic and technical skills required for postsecondary success;

(2) is developed in partnership with business and industry and aligns with the skill needs of industries in the local, regional, and State economies;

(3) prepares an individual to transition seamlessly from secondary to postsecondary experiences and be successful in any of a full range of secondary or postsecondary education options, including registered apprenticeships;

(4) includes career counseling and work-based learning experiences to support an individual in achieving the individual’s educational and career goals;

(5) includes, as appropriate, education offered concurrently with, and in the same context as, workforce preparation activities and training for a specific occupation or occupational cluster;

1           (6) organizes educational, training, and other experiences and services,  
2           with multiple entry and exit points along a training progression, to meet the  
3           particular needs of an individual in a manner that accelerates the educational  
4           and career advancement of the individual to the extent practicable;

5           (7) enables an individual to gain a secondary-school diploma or its  
6           recognized equivalent and allow postsecondary credit and industry  
7           certifications to be earned in high school; and

8           (8) prepares an individual to enter, or to advance within, a specific  
9           occupation or occupational cluster.

10          (b) Development of career pathways. The Agency of Education shall  
11          implement a process for developing career pathways that considers:

12           (1) State and local labor market demands;

13           (2) the recommendations of regional career technical education advisory  
14          boards or other employer-based boards;

15           (3) alignment with postsecondary education and training  
16          opportunities; and

17           (4) students' ability to gain credentials of value, dual enrollment credits,  
18          postsecondary credentials or degrees, and employment.

19          (c) Reporting. The Agency of Education shall report its progress in  
20          developing career pathways to the Board on an annual basis.

1   \* \* \* Career Technical Education \* \* \*

2             Sec. 2. CAREER READINESS; CTE PILOTS

3                     (a) Collaboration. The Agency of Education shall promote collaboration  
4                     among middle schools and regional career technical education (CTE) centers  
5                     to engage in activities such as, but not limited to:

6                             (1) developing and delivering introductory CTE courses or lessons to  
7                             middle school students that are part of broader career education, exploration,  
8                             and development programs and that are connected to career pathways and CTE  
9                             programs, as appropriate;

10                            (2) increasing student exposure to local career opportunities through  
11                            activities such as business tours, guest lectures, career fairs, and career-  
12                            awareness days; and

13                            (3) increasing student exposure to CTE programs through activities such  
14                            as tours of regional CTE centers, virtual field trips, and CTE guest visits.

15                     (b) Pilot projects. The Agency of Education shall approve up to four pilot  
16                     projects in a variety of CTE settings. These pilot projects shall propose novel  
17                     ways of integrating funding for CTE and general education and new  
18                     governance structures for regional CTE centers, including unified governance  
19                     structures between regional CTE centers and high schools, or both. Pilot  
20                     projects shall require both high school and regional CTE center involvement,

1 and shall be designed to enhance the delivery of educational experiences to  
2 both high school students and CTE students.

3 (1) A pilot project shall extend not longer than two years.

4 (2) The Agency shall establish guidelines, proposal submission  
5 requirements, and a review process to approve pilot projects.

6 (3) On or before January 15, 2020, the Agency shall report on the  
7 outcomes of the pilot projects to the House and Senate Committees on  
8 Education, the House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development,  
9 and the Senate Committee on Economic Development.

10 (c) Recommendation on CTE pre-tech programs. On or before August 15,  
11 2021, the Agency of Education shall recommend to the House and Senate  
12 Committees on Education, the House Committee on Commerce and Economic  
13 Development, and the Senate Committee on Economic Development flexible  
14 and student-centered policies that support equitable access and opportunity to  
15 participate in CTE pre-tech foundation and exploratory programs for students  
16 in grades 9 and 10. This recommendation shall include building such activities  
17 into students' personalized learning plans when appropriate, so that students  
18 are exposed to a wide variety of career choices in their areas of interest. In  
19 making its recommendation, the Agency shall consider the results of the pilot  
20 projects under subsection (b) of this section.

21 (d) Technical assistance.

1           (1) The Agency of Education shall provide technical assistance to  
2           schools to help them develop career education, exploration, and development,  
3           beginning in middle school, and introduce opportunities available through the  
4           regional CTE centers.

5           (2) The Agency of Education shall offer technical assistance so that  
6           regional CTE centers provide rigorous programs of study to students that are  
7           aligned with approved career pathways. Such programs of study may be  
8           combined with a registered apprenticeship program when the registered  
9           apprenticeship program is included in a student’s personalized learning plan.

10           (3) The Agency of Education shall offer technical assistance to local  
11           education agencies to ensure that each high school student has the opportunity  
12           to experience meaningful work-based learning when included in the student’s  
13           personalized learning plan, and that high schools coordinate effectively with  
14           regional CTE centers to avoid unnecessary duplication of programs of study  
15           already provided by the centers.

16           (e) Definition. As used in this section, “career pathways” shall have the  
17           same meaning as in Sec. 1 of this act.

18   \* \* \* Adult Training Programs\*\*

19           Sec. 3 ADULT TRAINING PROGRAMS

20           (a) Effective use of State investments. The Department of Labor shall  
21           ensure that the State’s investments in adult training programs are part of a

1 system that is responsive to labor-market demands, provides equitable access  
2 to a broad variety of training opportunities, and provides to those jobseekers  
3 with barriers to employment the accommodations or services they need to be  
4 successful.

5 (b) Delivery of training programs. Training programs delivered by career  
6 technical education centers, nonprofit and private entities, and institutions of  
7 higher education shall be included in the system.

8 (c) Technical assistance. The Agency of Education shall provide technical  
9 and programmatic guidance and assistance, as appropriate, to the Department  
10 of Labor to ensure alignment between secondary and postsecondary programs,  
11 policies, funding, and institutions.

12 \*\*\* Adult Career Technical Education \* \*

13 Sec. 4. ADULT CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION

14 (a) Adult career technical education programs offered by regional career  
15 technical education (CTE) centers. Vermont's regional CTE centers shall offer  
16 adult CTE programs that:

17 (1) develop technical courses for adults, aligned with a career pathway  
18 when possible, that support the occupational training needs of Vermonters  
19 seeking to up-skill, re-skill, and obtain credentials leading to employment;

20 (2) ensure that new and existing training responds to local or Statewide  
21 labor market demands;

1           (3) coordinate with State and regional partners, including other CTE  
2           centers, high schools, postsecondary educational institutions, and private  
3           training providers, to assure quality, consistency, efficiency, and efficacy of  
4           State and federally funded training opportunities;

5           (4) support expansion of adult work-based learning experiences, such as  
6           registered apprenticeships, by providing related instruction, as appropriate; and

7           (5) maximize use of federal and State funds by aligning with the State’s  
8           goals, priorities, and strategies outlined in Vermont’s Workforce Innovation  
9           and Opportunity Act Unified plan.

10          (b) Evaluation of technical and occupational training. The State Workforce  
11          Development Board shall review how technical and occupational training is  
12          delivered to adults throughout the State and consider how adult CTE programs,  
13          delivered through the 17 regional CTE centers, contribute to this system. The  
14          Board shall make recommendations on:

15               (1) staffing levels and structures that best support a strong adult  
16               technical education system;

17               (2) optimal hours of operation and facility availability for adult  
18               programs; and

19               (3) any other issues it finds relevant to enhancing support for adult  
20               technical education.

1           (c) Reporting. On or before January 15, 2019, the Board shall report its  
2           findings and recommendations to the House Committees on Education and on  
3           Commerce and Economic Development and the Senate Committees on  
4           Education and on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs.

5           (d) Partnering with employers. Nothing in this section shall prevent an  
6           adult CTE program or regional CTE center from partnering directly with  
7           employers to design and deliver programs meeting specific needs of employers  
8           or provide additional courses that meet a State or community need.

9           (e) Definition. As used in this section, “career pathways” shall have the  
10          same meaning as in Sec. 1 of this act.