

Strengthening and Expanding the Workforce

Goal: To increase the number and skill level of available workers in Vermont

Strategies:

- Increase the Labor Participation Rate of Vermonters
 - Recruit and Relocate More Workers to Vermont
 - Assist Employers in Accessing and Retaining Qualified Workers
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Overview of H. 811

Section 1: Responsibilities of the Commissioner of Labor

- Adds responsibility to develop and implement a coordinate system to recruit and relocate workers from outside Vermont to ensure the labor force needs of Vermont's businesses are met.
- Coordinate intentional outreach and connections between students graduating from Vermont's colleges and universities and employment opportunities.

Section 2: State System of Developing and Overseeing Career Pathways

- Charge the State Workforce Development Board with reviewing and approving State-endorsed Career Pathways
- Describe the scope of Career Pathway experiences

Section 3: Workforce Education and Training Funds

- Expand use of the Workforce Education and Training Funds (WETF) to include employment services that assist small businesses in meeting their labor needs
- Renaming of the Vermont Strong Internship and Returnship Program
- Directs WETF program investments to align with a career pathway
- Policy support for capital budget request that will direct funds to bolster, streamline, and encourage equitable access to Adult Technical Education

Section 4: Vermont Strong Internship and Returnships

- Direct VDOL to develop and implement a statewide "Returnship" program for individuals returning to the workforce
- Technical corrections
- Defines Returnship as an on-the-job learning experience – paid or unpaid