H.911: AN ACT RELATING TO CHANGES IN VERMONT'S PERSONAL INCOME TAX AND EDUCATION FINANCING SYSTEM

Senate Finance - Draft 1.1

Peter Griffin, Legislative Counsel

4/26/2018

Sec.	Description
	Personal Income Tax Changes
1	 Creates a Vermont personal exemption, a Vermont standard deduction, and eliminates Vermont's subtraction for itemized deductions. These changes replace Vermont's current reliance on federal definitions and its current treatment of itemized deductions. The personal exemption is set at \$4150. The standard deduction is set at \$12,000 for joint filers, \$9,000 for heads of households, and \$6000 for single filers. Retains the current CPI index for increasing these amounts, and for Vermont's personal income tax brackets.
2	 Lowers Vermont's marginal rates for personal income taxes and collapses the top two income tax brackets. The brackets and rates would change from: five brackets of 3.55%, 6.8%, 7.8%, 8.8% and 8.95% to four brackets of 3.35%, 6.6%, 7.6%, and 8.6%.
3	Creates a charitable donation tax credit, which is equal to 5% of the first \$10,000 in charitable contributions claimed at the federal level.
4	Increases the size of Vermont's earned income tax credit. It is increased from 32 percent of the federal credit to 35 percent of the federal credit.
1, 5, and 6	Exclude taxable Social Security benefits from State taxation for joint filers with federal adjusted gross income of \$60,000 or less, and single filers with federally adjusted gross income of \$45,000 or less, with phase-outs above those amounts.
7	Contains the annual linkage language to the federal statutes for taxable year 2017.
	Education Financing Changes
8-9	Sets the parameters for fiscal year 2019:
	• The property dollar equivalent yield is \$XXX.
	The income dollar equivalent yield is \$XXX.The nonresidential property tax rate is \$XXX.
10	Makes a technical change in how the rates are calculated for purposes of the Commissioner's December 1 recommendations.
11	Effective dates.