Vermont School Boards Association Vermont Superintendents Association Vermont Principals' Association





To: Representative Kate Webb, Chair, House Education Committee

Representative Larry Cupoli, Vice-Chair, House Education Committee

Members of the House Education Committee

From: Sue Ceglowski, Vermont School Boards Association

Jeff Francis, Vermont Superintendents Association

Jay Nichols, Vermont Principals' Association

Re: Miscellaneous Education Provisions - Sec 3 - ADM Adjustment

Date: September 3, 2020

Thank you for leading the House Education Committee and interested parties through the review of the COVID-19 related miscellaneous education provisions under consideration.

We have reviewed **Section 3 - ADM adjustment** and want to suggest that the reference "due to the student's enrollment in a home study program" be removed.

We are hearing from members of our respective Associations that a home study program is just one potential alternative for students who would, but for COVID-19 dynamics, otherwise be enrolled in their school district of residence. For example, some families are deciding to enroll their student in a private school or another school district because of the operating model or for some other similar reason directly related to COVID-19.

Given that the purpose of the ADM adjustment language is to account for a loss of enrollment due to COVID-19 dynamics in general, we believe that it is appropriate to strike the reference to "home study program." This change would support school districts in preserving an ADM count similar to what they would have otherwise seen were it not for COVID-19 related effects on enrollment.

Thank you for considering this recommendation.

Sec. 3. ADM ADJUSTMENT; DECLINE IN STUDENT ENROLLMENT DUE TO HOME STUDY (a) If a student was counted in a school district's average daily membership (ADM) for the 2019–2020 school year and would not be counted in the school district's ADM for the 2020–2021 school year due to the student's enrollment 6 in a home study program, then, notwithstanding 16 V.S.A. § 4001(1) (definition of "average daily membership"), the student shall be counted toward the school district's average daily membership for the 2020–2021 school year.

(b) As used in this section, "school district" means a school district, as defined in 16 V.S.A. § 11(11), or a regional career technical center school district, as defined in 16 V.S.A. § 1571

cc: Secretary Dan French