

1 Introduced by Committee on Commerce and Economic Development
2 Referred to Committee on
3 Date:
4 Subject: Commerce and trade; workforce development
5 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to create a
6 relocation support system within the Department of Labor.

7 An act relating to creating a relocation support system

8 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

9 Sec. 1. 10 V.S.A. § 542 is amended to read:

10 § 542. REGIONAL WORKFORCE EDUCATION AND TRAINING

11 (a) Relocation Support System. The Department of Labor shall launch and
12 lead a coordinated information and support system to facilitate the successful
13 relocation of individuals to and within Vermont. Services provided under this
14 system shall facilitate and expedite the physical transition of any person into a
15 Vermont community by providing quick, customized information, resources,
16 referrals, and support.

17 (1) Partnerships. All State agencies and State-funded programs shall
18 coordinate with the Department to ensure that services and information that
19 could assist a person in relocating to Vermont are made available through an
20 integrated, custom-centered system. The Department shall pursue working

1 agreements with key non-government organizations to ensure that subject area
2 expertise is available to program staff and individuals looking to move to
3 Vermont, through referrals or other information sharing mechanisms.

4 (2) Basic Community Profile. The Department shall create customized
5 pamphlets of information for each region that include labor market
6 information, housing and education information, recreation information, and
7 other relevant resources. The Department shall make the pamphlets available
8 for interested individuals to assist in aspects of preliminary decision-making.

9 (3) Partners. The Department shall convene regional, multi-disciplinary
10 teams to provide community-level knowledge, support, and services. Partners
11 shall represent expertise from a variety of sectors, including housing,
12 transportation, education, health, childcare, recreation, and economic
13 development.

14 (4) In response to the unique employment needs that exist in the different
15 federal Opportunity Zones, the Department shall competitively grant awards to
16 organizations with local expertise and the ability to directly support the
17 concierge approach to relocating individuals and families, working with
18 employers and service organizations in and around the Opportunity Zone
19 communities.

20 (b) Performance grants. The Commissioner of Labor, in coordination with
21 the Secretary of Commerce and Community Development, and in consultation

1 with the State Workforce Development Board, is authorized to issue
2 performance grants to one or more persons to perform workforce education
3 and training activities in a region.

4 ~~(b)~~(c) Scope of grants. Each grant shall specify the scope of the workforce
5 education and training activities to be performed and the geographic region to
6 be served, and shall include performance measures and results to evaluate the
7 grantee's performance.

8 ~~(e)~~(d) Grant process. The Commissioner of Labor and the Secretary of
9 Commerce and Community Development shall jointly develop a grant process
10 and eligibility criteria, as well as an outreach process for notifying potential
11 participants of the grant program. The Commissioner of Labor shall have final
12 authority to approve each grant.

13 Sec. 2. APPROPRIATION

14 In fiscal year 2020 the amount of \$500,000 is appropriated from the General
15 Fund to the Department of Labor to design and implement a relocation support
16 system pursuant to 10 V.S.A. § 542.

17 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

18 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2019.