

1 TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

2 The Committee on Commerce and Economic Development to which was
3 referred Senate Bill No. 162 entitled “An act relating to promoting economic
4 development” respectfully reports that it has considered the same and
5 recommends that the House propose to the Senate that the bill be amended by
6 striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the
7 following:

8 * * * Eliminating Calendar Year Limits on the Remote Worker Program * * *

9 Sec. 1. 2018 Acts and Resolves No. 197, Sec. 1(b)(3) is amended to read:

10 (3) The Agency shall award grants under the Program on a first-come,
11 first-served basis, subject to available funding, ~~as follows:~~

12 ~~(A) not more than \$125,000.00 in calendar year 2019;~~

13 ~~(B) not more than \$250,000.00 in calendar year 2020;~~

14 ~~(C) not more than \$125,000.00 in calendar year 2021; and~~

15 ~~(D) not more than \$100,000.00 per year in each subsequent calendar~~

16 ~~year, to the extent funding remains available.~~

17 * * * Vermont Employment Growth Incentive Program * * *

18 Sec. 2. REPEAL

19 32 V.S.A. § 3336 (enhanced incentive for workforce training) is repealed.

20 Sec. 3. VERMONT EMPLOYMENT GROWTH INCENTIVE; PROGRESS

21 REPORT

1 Economic Development and Economic Development Marketing Plans to
2 incorporate the marketing of State-owned airports as an important tool for
3 attracting and retaining businesses, enhancing workforce development,
4 spearheading crucial technology advancements, and growing commerce
5 essential to Vermont’s future.

6 (2) On January 15, 2019, the Secretary of Transportation submitted to
7 the General Assembly its Feasibility Evaluation of Electric Vehicle Charging
8 Stations, Electric Aircraft Charging Stations, and Renewable Energy
9 Generating Plants at State-Owned Airports Pursuant to Act 108 of 2018. The
10 Evaluation noted that State-owned airports are suitable sites for electric vehicle
11 charging stations and electric aircraft charging stations, and that solar
12 photovoltaic installations can be compatible with airport operations.

13 Sec. 5. DEFINITIONS

14 For purposes of this act:

15 (1) “State-owned airport master permit” means all permits necessary to
16 construct infrastructure, buildings, runway access, and related assets in support
17 of general aviation and aviation-focused commercial and manufacturing
18 enterprises at State-owned airports, excluding activities associated with runway
19 expansion and infrastructure required for general airport operations. Permits
20 included in the State-owned airport master permit include any applicable Act
21 250 permit, any applicable permits issued by the Agencies of Natural

1 Resources and of Transportation, the Division of Fire Safety, the Natural
2 Resources Board, and the Public Utility Commission.

3 (2) “State-owned airport permit master plan” means a comprehensive
4 plan to construct infrastructure, buildings, runway access, and related assets in
5 support of general aviation and aviation-focused commercial and
6 manufacturing enterprises at State-owned airports, excluding activities
7 associated with runway expansion and infrastructure required for general
8 airport operations. State-owned airport permit master plans may be developed
9 by the Agency of Transportation, in consultation with the Agency of
10 Commerce and Community Development, for the review and approval by the
11 Agency of Natural Resources, the Department of Public Safety, the Natural
12 Resources Board, and the Public Utility Commission prior to the submission of
13 applications for permits in the State-owned airport master permit.

14 (3) “Renewable energy” shall have the same meaning as in 30 V.S.A.
15 § 8002.

16 (4) “Renewable energy generating plant” means real and personal
17 property, including any equipment, structure, or facility used for or directly
18 related to the generation of electricity from renewable energy.

19 Sec. 6. APPLICATIONS FOR MASTER PERMITS

20 (a) The Agency of Transportation, in consultation with the Agency of
21 Commerce and Community Development, is encouraged to obtain, as swiftly

1 as practicable, all permits in the State-owned master airport permit necessary
2 for growth, development, and facility upgrades at each State-owned airport.
3 State-owned airport permit master plans shall include charging stations for
4 electrified aircraft and, when practical, renewable energy generating plants that
5 advance the State's preference to utilize all roof space for photovoltaic
6 installations when practical.

7 (b) In processing permits in the State-owned airport master permit sought
8 by the Agency of Transportation, State agencies, departments, commissions,
9 and boards may waive permit fees for all permits in the State-owned airport
10 master permit provided that a State-owned airport permit master plan was
11 reviewed and approved prior to the submission of any applications for permits
12 in the State-owned master airport permit.

13 * * * Delivery of Vermont Technical College

14 Degree Programs at CTE Centers; Study; Pilot Programs * * *

15 **Sec. 7. DELIVERY OF VERMONT TECHNICAL COLLEGE**

16 **DEGREE PROGRAMS AT CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

17 **CENTERS IN VERMONT; STUDY; PILOT PROGRAMS**

18 (a) Study by Vermont Technical College. The Vermont Technical
19 College (VTC) shall study how to best deliver all or a portion of fully
20 accredited VTC associate degree programs at CTE centers in Vermont. The
21 study shall explore the viability of a new program to provide a locally

1 convenient and financially affordable option to high school students and adult
2 learners who want, while still enrolled with their CTE centers, to also enroll in
3 a high-demand, high-skill, industry-specific associate degree offering. VTC
4 shall collaborate with the CTE centers and the Agency of Education in
5 conducting the study. In structuring the study, VTC shall consider:

6 (1) alignment of degree programs with workforce priority needs and
7 career pathways identified by the Agency of Education;

8 (2) coherence with existing, State-supported postsecondary programs for
9 secondary students, such as dual enrollment and early college programs under
10 the flexible pathways laws, including potential impacts to, and alignment with,
11 those programs;

12 (3) sustainable funding models, including costs for students, institutions,
13 and adults;

14 (4) the financial risks of programmatic and funding model changes, with
15 the goals of not negatively impacting the accreditation status or the financial
16 status of any institution, and

17 (5) management of class scheduling and CTE partnerships to ensure
18 access and programmatic success.

19 (b) Reports.

20 (1) On or before December 15, 2019, VTC shall submit a written report
21 to the House and Senate Committees on Education and the State Board of

1 Education with its findings and recommendations from the study required
2 under subsection (a) of this section.

3 (2) If VTC recommends from its study that all or a portion of fully
4 accredited VTC associate degree programs should be offered at CTE centers in
5 Vermont, then VTC shall, in the fall 2020 semester, conduct up to two pilot
6 programs that offer these degree programs in at least two CTE centers. If these
7 pilot programs are conducted, on or before January 15, 2021, VTC shall submit
8 a supplemental written report to the House and Senate Committees on
9 Education and the State Board of Education with its findings and
10 recommendations from the pilot programs.

11 * * * Workforce Training;

12 Vermont Training Program; Weatherization * * *

13 Sec. 8. VERMONT TRAINING PROGRAM; WORKFORCE TRAINING
14 ALLOCATIONS

15 (a) In an effort to promote access to training opportunities for Vermont
16 small businesses, and to increase the resources available for employees to
17 obtain credentials of value or apprenticeships, of the amounts appropriated to
18 the Agency of Commerce and Community Development for the Vermont
19 Training Program in fiscal year 2020:

20 (1) the Agency, working in partnership with the Department of Labor to
21 identify appropriate opportunities, shall employ its best efforts to allocate

1 25 percent of Program funding to provide training that results in a credential of
2 value or apprenticeship; and

3 (2) the Agency shall employ its best efforts to allocate 25 percent of
4 Program funding to provide training for businesses with 50 or fewer
5 employees.

6 (b) In its annual report submitted pursuant to 10 V.S.A. § 531(k) the
7 Agency shall specifically address:

8 (1) whether it was able to achieve the allocations specified in subsection
9 (a) of this section, and if not, the reasons therefor;

10 (2) the distribution of training funds by the number of employees of
11 each business that benefitted from training;

12 (3) the distribution of training funds that resulted in an employee
13 obtaining a credential of value or apprenticeship; and

14 (4) the extent to which the Program benefitted businesses with 50 or
15 fewer employees.

16 Sec. 9. 10 V.S.A. § 531 is amended to read:

17 § 531. THE VERMONT TRAINING PROGRAM

18 * * *

19 (d) In order to avoid duplication of programs or services and to provide the
20 greatest return on investment from training provided under this section, the
21 Secretary of Commerce and Community Development shall:

1 (1) consult with the Commissioner of Labor regarding whether the
2 grantee has accessed, or is eligible to access, other workforce education and
3 training resources;

4 (2) disburse grant funds only for training hours that have been
5 successfully completed by employees; ~~provided that,~~ subject to the following:

6 (A) except for an award under an enhanced incentive for workforce
7 training as provided in 32 V.S.A. § 3336, a grant for on-the-job training shall:

8 (i) for a business with 50 or fewer employees, either provide not
9 more than 75 percent of wages for each employee in training or not more than
10 75 percent of trainer expense, but not both;

11 (ii) for all other businesses, either provide not more than
12 50 percent of wages for each employee in training or not more than 50 percent
13 of trainer expense, but not both, ~~and further provided that;~~

14 (B) training shall be performed in accordance with a training plan
15 that defines the subject of the training, the number of training hours, and how
16 the effectiveness of the training will be evaluated; and

17 (3) use funds under this section only to supplement training efforts of
18 employers and not to replace or supplant training efforts of employers.

19 * * *

20 (k) Annually on or before January 15, the Secretary shall submit a report to
21 the House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development and the

1 Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs.

2 In addition to the reporting requirements under section 540 of this title, the
3 report shall identify:

4 (1) all active and completed contracts and grants;

5 (2) from among the following, the category the training addressed:

6 (A) preemployment training or other training for a new employee to
7 begin a newly created position with the employer;

8 (B) preemployment training or other training for a new employee to
9 begin in an existing position with the employer;

10 (C) training for an incumbent employee who, upon completion of
11 training, assumes a newly created position with the employer;

12 (D) training for an incumbent employee who, upon completion of
13 training assumes a different position with the employer;

14 (E) training for an incumbent employee to upgrade skills;

15 (3) for the training identified in subdivision (2) of this subsection

16 whether the training is ~~onsite~~ on-site or classroom-based;

17 (4) the number of employees served;

18 (5) the average wage by employer;

19 (6) any waivers granted;

20 (7) the identity of the employer, or, if unknown at the time of the report,
21 the category of employer;

1 (8) the identity of each training provider;

2 (9) whether training results in a wage increase for a trainee, and the
3 amount of increase; ~~and~~

4 (10) the aggregated median wage of employees invoiced for training
5 during the reporting period;

6 (11) the percentage growth in wages for all wage earners in the State
7 during the reporting period; and

8 (12) the number, type, and description of grants for work-based learning
9 programs and activities awarded pursuant to subsection (e) of this section.

10 Sec. 10. WORKFORCE TRAINING; WEATHERIZATION

11 (a) In fiscal year 2020 the Office of Economic Opportunity within the
12 Department for Children and Families shall provide grant funding to the five
13 Home Weatherization Assistance Programs for the purpose of recruiting and
14 training individuals in the home weatherization industry.

15 (b) Grantees may use the funding for:

16 (1) recruiting Vermonters who are eligible for funding under the federal
17 Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act;

18 (2) operations for weatherization training programs, including training
19 coordinators across the State; and

20 (3) stipends and wage subsidies for training participants.

1 (c) The Home Weatherization Assistance Programs are also encouraged to
2 apply for the federal Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act grant funds
3 through the Department of Labor to supplement and enhance the
4 weatherization training programs.

5 (d) On or before January 15, 2020, the Departments of Labor and for
6 Children and Families shall report to the House Committee on Commerce and
7 Economic Development and the Senate Committee on Economic
8 Development, Housing and General Affairs with recommendations on best
9 practices for recruiting, training, and retaining the weatherization workforce in
10 this State.

11 Sec. 11. 16 V.S.A. § 2846 is amended to read:

12 § 2846. ~~NONDEGREE~~ ADVANCEMENT GRANTS

13 (a) The Corporation may establish ~~grant programs~~ an advancement grant
14 program for residents pursuing nondegree education and training opportunities
15 who do not meet the definition of student in subdivision 2822(3) of this title,
16 and who may not meet the requirements of this subchapter.

17 (b) ~~Nondegree grants~~ Advancement grants may be used at institutions that
18 are not approved postsecondary education institutions.

19 (c) The Corporation may adopt rules or establish policies, procedures,
20 standards, and forms for ~~nondegree~~ advancement grants, including the

1 requirements for applying for and using the grants and the eligibility
2 requirements for the institutions where the grants may be used.

3 Sec. 12. 10 V.S.A. § 546 is added to read:

4 § 546. STATE POSTSECONDARY ATTAINMENT GOAL

5 (a) It is the policy of the State of Vermont to:

6 (1) grow awareness of postsecondary pathways and the individual and
7 public value of continued education after high school;

8 (2) expand postsecondary access so that students of all ages and
9 backgrounds can pursue postsecondary education and training;

10 (3) increase postsecondary success by ensuring that Vermonters have
11 the supports they need to complete a credential of value; and

12 (4) maximize partnerships across and within sectors to achieve State
13 workforce development and education goals.

14 (b) In order to meet workforce and labor market demands, the State of
15 Vermont shall take steps necessary to achieve a postsecondary attainment goal
16 that not less than 70 percent of working-age Vermonters possess a degree or
17 credential of value, as defined by the State Workforce Development Board, by
18 the year 2025.

19 * * * Adult Career and Technical Education System * * *

20 Sec. 13. ADULT CTE SYSTEM

21 (a) Findings; purpose.

1 (1) Findings. The General Assembly finds:

2 (A) Like many rural states, Vermont faces demographic realities
3 that have resulted in an historically low unemployment rate and created
4 obstacles for employers that seek to hire and retain enough fully trained
5 employees.

6 (B) Notwithstanding this high employer demand, due to rapidly
7 changing technology and evolving business needs, potential employees may
8 lack the particular skills and training necessary to qualify for available jobs.

9 (C) In order to assist employers and employees in matching demand
10 to requisite skills, Vermont has a broad diversity of adult workforce
11 education and training programs offered by multiple providers, including
12 programs administered or funded by State government, educational
13 institutions, business and industry, and private professionals.

14 (2) Purpose. Consistent with the goals and purposes of 2018 Acts and
15 Resolves No. 189, pursuant to which the State Workforce Development
16 Board and other stakeholders are currently engaged in planning the design
17 and implementation of a fully integrated workforce development system, it is
18 the purpose of the General Assembly to explore the creation of a fully
19 integrated adult career and technical education system that:

1 (A) provides Vermonters throughout the State with high quality
2 programs that are standardized, replicable, and offered with regularity and
3 consistency;

4 (B) coordinates, or integrates where appropriate, the many
5 programs and providers to maximize the efficient use of training resources;
6 and

7 (C) features a governance structure that provides consistency across
8 the system whenever appropriate, but also provides the flexibility necessary
9 to respond to local and regional workforce demands.

10 (b) Adult CTE System. The Department of Labor, in collaboration
11 with the Agency of Education, the Vermont State Colleges, and the Vermont
12 Adult Technical Education Association, shall issue a request for proposals for
13 consulting services, the purpose of which shall be to consider and report to
14 the General Assembly on the design, implementation, and costs of an
15 integrated adult career and technical education system that achieves the
16 results specified in subdivision (2) of this subsection.

17 (c) Report. On or before January 15, 2020 the Department of Labor shall
18 submit a report on the work of the consultant selected and any
19 recommendations for legislative action to the House Committee on
20 Commerce and Economic Development and the Senate Committee on
21 Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs.

1 * * * Workforce Recruitment; Military Base Recruitment * * *

2 Sec. 14. RELOCATION SUPPORT SYSTEM

3 (a) The Department of Labor shall:

4 (1) collaborate with key employers and nongovernmental organizations
5 to ensure that appropriate expertise is available to program staff and
6 individuals looking to enter Vermont’s job market, through referrals or other
7 information sharing mechanisms;

8 (2)(A) coordinate available information for each region that includes
9 labor market information, housing and education information, recreation
10 information, and other relevant resources; and

11 (B) make the information easily accessible for interested individuals
12 to assist in aspects of preliminary decision making; and

13 (3) convene regional, multidisciplinary teams that:

14 (A) comprise partners with expertise from relevant sectors, including
15 housing, transportation, education, health, child care, recreation, and economic
16 development; and

17 (B) provide community-level knowledge, support, and services to
18 best meet the needs of prospective employees.

19 (b) State agencies and State-funded programs shall coordinate with
20 the Department to ensure that services and information that could assist a

1 person in relocating to Vermont are made available through an integrated,
2 employee-centered system.

3 Sec. 15. ON-BASE RECRUITMENT PILOT PROGRAM

4 (a) The Department of Labor shall work with the Vermont National Guard
5 and public and private employers in health care, construction, manufacturing,
6 business services, transportation, and human services to pilot an on-base
7 recruitment effort that encourages service members separating from military
8 service to relocate to Vermont.

9 (b) The Department shall coordinate with the Agency of Commerce and
10 Community Development to direct available marketing and outreach funds to
11 support targeted recruitment events held on military bases.

12 (c) The Department shall provide limited organizational support to
13 employers interested in participating in private-pay travel to military bases in
14 conjunction with other employers, representatives of the Vermont National
15 Guard, and State officials for the purpose of promoting employment and
16 relocation to Vermont.

17 (d) Not more than \$25,000.00 in General Funds may be allocated to the
18 Department to support staff time, supplies, necessary travel, and other related
19 costs.

20 (e) On or before January 15, 2020, the Department shall report to the
21 House Committees on Commerce and Economic Development and on

1 Appropriations and to the Senate Committees on Economic Development,
2 Housing and General Affairs and on Appropriations concerning
3 implementation and outcomes of this pilot program.

4 * * * Workforce Training and Credentialing; Nurse Educators;
5 New Americans; Workers with Barriers to Employment * * *

6 Sec. 16. OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION; REPORT

7 (a) The Office of Professional Regulation, in consultation with the
8 Vermont Board of Nursing, Vermont State Colleges, the University of
9 Vermont, Norwich University, and other interested stakeholders, shall review
10 statutory, regulatory, and accreditation standards for nursing programs within
11 the State and nationally with the purpose of identifying barriers to recruitment
12 and retention of nurse educators in nursing education programs.

13 (b) The Office of Professional Regulation shall evaluate the
14 appropriateness of the level of credential and experience currently required for
15 nurse educators in clinical settings.

16 (c) On or before December 15, 2019, the Office of Professional Regulation
17 shall report its findings, including recommendations for any statutory or
18 regulatory changes to facilitate recruitment and retention of nurse faculty, to
19 the House Committees on Commerce and Economic Development and on
20 Government Operations and to the Senate Committees on Economic
21 Development, Housing and General Affairs and on Government Operations.

1 Sec. 17. STUDY; WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR
2 REFUGEES, IMMIGRANTS, AND ASYLUM SEEKERS

3 (a) Creation. There is created a task force on workforce development
4 opportunities for refugees, immigrants, and asylum seekers living in Vermont.

5 (b) Membership. The task force shall be composed of the following
6 members:

7 (1) The State Refugee Coordinator.

8 (2) A member with expertise in new American workforce development
9 issues appointed by the Agency of Human Services Secretary.

10 (3) The executive director of AALV or designee.

11 (4) The president of Vermont’s U.S. Committee for Refugees and
12 Immigrants or designee.

13 (5) The director of CVOEO’s financial futures program or designee.

14 (6) A representative of Burlington’s Community Economic
15 Development Office’s Sustainability, Housing, and Economic Development
16 department.

17 (7) Two Vermont employers, one of whom is engaged in business in the
18 agricultural sector and one of whom is engaged in business in another sector,
19 with experience hiring and cultivating new American workers appointed by the
20 Chair of the State Workforce Development Board.

1 (8) Two members of Vermont’s refugee, immigrant, and immigrant
2 communities, one appointed by each of AALV and Vermont’s U.S. Committee
3 for Refugees and Immigrants.

4 (9) An appointee of the University of Vermont with research expertise
5 in refugee and New American migration in Vermont.

6 (10) A member appointed by the Vermont Migrant Education Project.

7 (11) A member appointed by the Community Asylum Seekers Project.

8 (12) A member appointed by Rutland Welcomes.

9 (c) Powers and duties. The task force shall study the following:

10 (1) recommendations identified in relevant studies and reports;

11 (2) cultural competency support needed in Vermont’s employment
12 settings;

13 (3) training, apprenticeship, and mentorship needs and opportunities;

14 (4) tools and supports needed for refugees to effectively apply
15 preexisting educational and professional credentials in Vermont settings; and

16 (5) additional supports needed to ensure employment opportunities,
17 including child care and transportation.

18 (d) Meetings.

19 (1) The State Refugee Coordinator shall call the first meeting of the
20 task force to occur on or before September 1, 2019.

1 (2) The task force shall select a chair from among its members at the
2 first meeting.

3 (3) A majority of the membership shall constitute a quorum.

4 (4) The task force shall meet not more than six times and shall cease to
5 exist on January 15, 2020.

6 (e) Report. On or before December 1, 2019, the task force shall report to
7 the House Committees on Commerce and Economic Development, on
8 Government Operations, and on Appropriations and to the Senate Committees
9 on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs, on Government
10 Operations, and on Appropriations concerning its findings, recommendations
11 for proposed legislation, and investments in order of priority.

12 Sec. 18. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR; FIDELITY BONDS

13 Of the amounts appropriated to the Department of Labor in fiscal year 2020
14 from the Workforce Education and Training Fund, the Department shall
15 allocate not more than \$3,000.00 to purchase fidelity bonds through the
16 Federal Bonding Program to provide insurance against theft or loss for insurers
17 to hire workers with barriers to employment.

18 Sec. 19. REGISTRY OF EMPLOYERS

19 (a) The Department of Labor shall create and maintain on its website a
20 registry of employers who accept applications and are willing to hire workers

1 with barriers to employment, including workers in recovery from addiction and
2 workers with past incarceration.

3 (b) On or before January 15, 2020, the Department shall report to the
4 House Committees on Commerce and Economic Development and on
5 Appropriations and to the Senate Committees on Economic Development,
6 Housing and General Affairs and on Appropriations concerning the creation of
7 the registry and the extent the registry assisted employers and employees with
8 barriers to employment.

9 Sec. 20. CORRECTIONS; WORKFORCE TRAINING

10 (a)(1) On or before October 10, 2019, the Department of Corrections and
11 the Department of Labor shall execute a memorandum of understanding
12 regarding a standardized program of education and training for all new and
13 existing probation and parole officers that includes components related to:

14 (A) minimizing barriers for offenders to obtaining and maintaining
15 employment; and

16 (B) minimizing the impact of program and supervision requirements
17 on the offender's employment, including monitoring and facilitating
18 compliance with Department of Corrections case plan goals based on best
19 practices and consistent with public safety.

20 (2) The Departments shall provide written notice when the
21 memorandum of understanding is executed to the chairs of the House

1 Committees on Commerce and Economic Development and on Corrections
2 and Institutions and to the Senate Committees on Economic Development,
3 Housing and General Affairs and on Institutions.

4 (3) The Departments shall ensure that all incumbent probation and
5 parole officers receive the education and training under the program on or
6 before July 1, 2020.

7 (b) The Department of Corrections shall collaborate with the Department of
8 Motor Vehicles and other partners as necessary to ensure that a sentenced
9 inmate is provided with at least one form of government-issued identification,
10 not to include an inmate identification card, upon release from incarceration.

11 (c) Reports.

12 (1) On or before August 15, 2019, the Departments of Corrections and
13 Labor shall report to the Joint Legislative Justice Oversight Committee
14 concerning the Departments' progress towards developing the memorandum of
15 understanding as required by this section.

16 (2) On or before December 15, 2020, the Departments of Corrections and
17 Labor shall report to the House Committees on Commerce and Economic
18 Development and on Corrections and Institutions and to the Senate
19 Committees on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs and on
20 Institutions concerning the implementation of this section.

21 * * * Vermont Talent Pipeline Management Project * * *

1 Sec. 21. VERMONT TALENT PIPELINE MANAGEMENT PROJECT

2 (a) The Vermont Talent Pipeline Management Project brings value to
3 Vermont’s workforce and economic development initiatives by:

4 (1) convening employers by sector to create industry specific
5 partnerships and employer informed initiatives aimed at addressing skill gaps;

6 (2) engaging education partners to develop and align programs that meet
7 employer and incumbent needs; and

8 (3) highlighting policy, practice, and funding challenges that prevent
9 access to training or that inhibit advancement of workers within high need
10 areas of Vermont’s economy.

11 (b) The Vermont Talent Pipeline Management Project is encouraged to
12 collaborate in Vermont’s workforce and economic development systems by:

13 (1) organizing, convening, and maintaining employer collaboratives in
14 key sectors of the economy, identified by available labor market information;

15 (2) broadly sharing competency and credential requirements learned
16 from employer collaboratives, and specifically engaging training and education
17 partners in the development of new or modification of existing programs; and

18 (3) using a continuous improvement process to ensure employer needs
19 are met.

20 * * * International Trade and Development * * *

21 Sec. 22. INTERNATIONAL TRADE, EDUCATION, AND CULTURAL

1 EXCHANGE

2 On or before December 15, 2019, the Agency of Commerce and
3 Community Development shall review and report to the House Committee on
4 Commerce and Economic Development and the Senate Committee on
5 Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs on effective
6 mechanisms to collaborate with regional partners and form formal partnerships
7 that will promote international trade, as well as educational and cultural
8 exchanges, between and among Vermont, the New England states, and foreign
9 nations.

10 * * * Agency of Commerce and Community Development;

11 Structure and Organization * * *

12 Sec. 23. AGENCY OF COMMERCE AND COMMUNITY

13 DEVELOPMENT; STRUCTURE AND ORGANIZATION;

14 REPORT

15 On or before January 15, 2020, the Secretary of Commerce and Community
16 Development shall review and report to the House Committees on Commerce
17 and Economic Development and on Appropriations and to the Senate
18 Committees on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs and on
19 Appropriations concerning one or more proposals to amend the structure and
20 organization of the Agency in order to enhance its ability to achieve its
21 purposes and perform its duties.

1 Development Marketing Plan through paid, owned, and earned media, utilizing
2 technology, data, and analysis tools; and

3 (B) \$225,000.00 to identify, recruit, and provide relocation assistance
4 to workers, including:

5 (i) identifying target audiences;

6 (ii) targeting through digital and social media; and

7 (iii) implementing strategies that convert visitors to residents and
8 awarding grants for regional partnerships to help recruitment efforts at the
9 local and regional levels;

10 (2) \$1,145,000.00 to the Department of Labor as follows:

11 (A) \$275,000.00 to implement a relocation support system and
12 provide services pursuant to Sec. 14 of this act; and

13 (B) \$870,000.00 for workforce development and training as follows:

14 (i) \$350,000.00 for grants to provide weatherization training
15 pursuant to Sec. 10 of this act;

16 (ii) \$50,000.00 for a grant to the Community College of Vermont
17 to purchase equipment to provide robotics training at its Rutland location; and

18 (iii) \$470,000.00 to the workforce education and training fund
19 created in 10 V.S.A. § 543 to expand opportunities for apprenticeships,
20 training, and adult career and technical education, which may include funding

1 to replicate in additional locations the robotics training program at the Rutland
2 location of the Community College of Vermont; and

3 (3) \$200,000.00 to the Agency of Administration to provide funding to
4 VTC for the study and pilot programs under Sec. 7 of this act, provided:

5 (A) on or before July 1, 2019, the Agency of Administration shall
6 distribute \$57,000.00 to VTC for the study;

7 (B) if the pilot programs are conducted by VTC, then the Agency of
8 Administration shall, on or before January 1, 2020, distribute the remaining
9 \$143,000.00 to VTC for the pilot programs; and

10 (C) any unused funds shall revert to the General Fund.

11 * * * Effective Date * * *

12 Sec. 26. EFFECTIVE DATE

13 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2019, except that Secs. 5–6 (State-
14 owned airports) shall take effect on passage.

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1 (Committee vote: _____)

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Representative _____

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FOR THE COMMITTEE