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**Proposed CRF Education Language from HEC to HAC**

Sec. 1. 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 120, Sec. A.50 is amended to read:

Sec. A.50. PRE-K–12 EDUCATION PANDEMIC COSTS: CORONAVIRUS  
RELIEF FUND APPROPRIATIONS

(a) Total appropriation. The sum of \$50,000,000 is appropriated in fiscal year 2020, and the sum of \$32,000,000.00 is appropriated in fiscal year 2021, to the Agency of Education to fund eligible fiscal years 2020 and 2021 expenditures of Vermont prekindergarten–grade 12 public schools and approved independent schools. Eligible expenditures shall conform with the requirements of Sec. 5001 of the CARES Act, Pub. L. No. 116-136, and related guidance, and shall be determined by the Secretary of Education.

(1) This funding is allocated under subsections (b), (c), and (d) of this section. If the Agency determines that any allocation under these subsections is likely not to be fully used by December 30, 2020, it shall reallocate the unused portion of that funding to one or more of the categories under the other subsections that it believes has or will have eligible CARES Act expenses. Any reallocation shall be reported to the Joint Fiscal Committee, the Commissioner of Finance and Management, and the Joint Fiscal Office.



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Sec. 3. SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT FOR MEALS TO CHILDREN

(a) 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 120, Sec. 50, as amended by this act, appropriates \$68,000,000.00 to the Agency of Education for CARES Act expenditures incurred by prekindergarten-12 schools. 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 136, Sec. 12, allocated up to \$12,000,000.00 of this funding for the purpose of reimbursing costs of providing summer meals to children during the months of June, July, and August 2020.

(b) Not all of the allocation for summer meals was used prior to the end of August 2020. Therefore, up to \$4,000,000.00 of the funds remaining from Section 12 of Act 136 may be distributed by the Agency of Education to School Food Authorities and other Child Nutrition Program sponsors for the purchase of CARES Act eligible supplies and equipment, including vehicles, freezers and other capital assets, necessary to provide meals to children using the federal child nutrition programs during the COVID-19 state of emergency. These funds are restricted to costs that exceed the federal per-meal reimbursement received for meals provided through these programs.

(c) If the Agency determines that the \$4,000,000.00 allocation under subsection (b) of this section is likely not to be fully used by December 30, 2020, it shall reallocate the unused portion of that funding to eligible CARES Act expenditures incurred by school districts under 2020 Acts and Resolves

1 No. 120, Sec. 50, as amended by this act. Any reallocation shall be reported  
2 to the Joint Fiscal Committee, the Commissioner of Finance and Management,  
3 and the Joint Fiscal Office.

4 Sec. 4. LENGTH OF 2020–2021 SCHOOL YEAR

5 Notwithstanding 16 V.S.A. § 1071(a), for the 2020–2021 school year, each  
6 public school shall be maintained and operated for not less than 170 student  
7 attendance days, except as provided in subsection (g) of that section, which  
8 allows for waivers of this requirement.

9 Sec. 5. 2020–2021 SCHOOL YEAR; AUSTRALIAN BALLOT

10 (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of 17 V.S.A. § 2680(a) and 16 V.S.A.  
11 § 711e that require the voters of a school district to vote to apply the provisions  
12 of the Australian ballot system to its annual meeting or special meetings, any  
13 school district may apply the Australian ballot system to any or all of its annual  
14 meeting and special meetings held in the 2020–2021 school year by vote of its  
15 school board.

16 (b) The Secretary of State may waive statutory deadlines or other statutory  
17 provisions, or provisions set forth in a school district’s articles of agreement,  
18 related to a municipal election as necessary in order for a municipality to apply  
19 the Australian ballot system in accordance with subsection (a) of this section.  
20 This waiver authority applies to statutory provisions set forth in a municipal  
21 charter or provisions set forth in a school district’s articles of agreement if the

1 waiver is requested by that municipality.

2 (c) As used in this section, “school district” means a school district, as  
3 defined in 16 V.S.A. § 11(11), or a regional career technical center school  
4 district, as defined in 16 V.S.A. § 1571.

5 Sec. 6. 2020–2021 SCHOOL YEAR; WAIVER OF ONLINE TEACHING  
6 ENDORSEMENT

7 Notwithstanding 16 V.S.A. § 1694, for the 2020–2021 school year, the  
8 Standards Board for Professional Educators (SBPE) shall waive its  
9 requirement for a teacher to hold an endorsement for online teaching in order  
10 to teach online or implement remote learning.

11 Sec. 7. ELECTIONS; UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

12 (a) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the election of a  
13 director on the board of a unified union school district who is to serve on  
14 the board after expiration of the term for an initial director shall be held at the  
15 unified union school district’s annual meeting unless otherwise provided in the  
16 district’s articles of agreement.

17 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, if  
18 a vacancy occurs on the board of a unified union school district and  
19 the vacancy is in a seat that is allocated to a specific town, the clerk of the  
20 unified union school district shall immediately notify the selectboard of the  
21 town. Within 30 days after the receipt of that notice, the unified

1 union school district board, in consultation with the selectboard, shall appoint a  
2 person who is otherwise eligible to serve as a member of the unified  
3 union school district board to fill the vacancy until an election is held at an  
4 annual or special meeting unless otherwise provided in accordance with the  
5 unified union school district's articles of agreement.

6 (c) This section is repealed on July 1, 2022.

7 Sec. 8. EFFECTIVE DATE

8 This act shall take effect on passage.