

1 TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

2 The Committee on Education to which was referred House Bill No. 209  
3 entitled “An act relating to ending the suspension of State aid for school  
4 construction projects” respectfully reports that it has considered the same and  
5 recommends that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting  
6 clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

7 Sec. 1. REPEAL

8 16 V.S.A. chapter 123 is repealed.

9 Sec. 2. 16 V.S.A. § 212 is amended to read:

10 § 212. SECRETARY’S DUTIES GENERALLY

11 The Secretary shall execute those policies adopted by the State Board in the  
12 legal exercise of its powers and shall:

13 \* \* \*

14 (9) Establish requirements for information to be submitted by school  
15 districts, including necessary statistical data and other information and ensure,  
16 to the extent possible, that data are reported in a uniform way. Data collected  
17 under this subdivision shall include budget surplus amounts, reserve fund  
18 amounts, ~~and~~ information concerning the purpose and use of any reserve funds,  
19 and debt service amounts for school construction.

20 \* \* \*

1       Sec. 3. STATE AID FOR SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION; STUDY; REPORT

2           (a) The Secretary of Education and the State Treasurer shall create a school  
3       capital needs assessments survey and analyze options for the State to assist in  
4       funding school construction projects. The analysis shall consider:

5           (1) various funding options, including through grants, loans and bonds;

6           (2) whether to limit the scope of eligible project costs; and

7           (3) what cost-share amount would be sustainable for the State.

8           (b) On or before January 15, 2020, the Secretary of Education and the State  
9       Treasurer shall submit a written report to the House Committees on  
10       Corrections and Institutions and on Education, and the Senate Committees on  
11       Education and on Institutions. The report shall include recommendations for:

12           (1) a plan for distributing and maximizing response rates to the survey  
13       described in subsection (a) of this section; and

14           (2) a legislative proposal for funding school construction projects based  
15       on the analysis described in subsection of this section.

16       Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATES

17           This act shall take effect on July 1, 2019, except that Sec. 1 shall take effect  
18       on July 1, 2022.

19           and that after passage the title of the bill be amended to read: “An act  
20       relating to State aid for school construction projects”

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(Committee vote: \_\_\_\_\_)

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Representative \_\_\_\_\_

FOR THE COMMITTEE