

1 H.959

2 Representatives Sibia of Dover, Gannon of Wilmington, and Szott of  
3 Barnard move that the bill be amended by striking out Sec. 5, effective date,  
4 and its reader assistance heading in their entirety, and inserting in lieu thereof  
5 the following:

6 \* \* \* Pupil Weighting Factors Implementation Report \* \* \*

7 Sec. 5. PUPIL WEIGHTING FACTORS; IMPLEMENTATION REPORT;  
8 PUBLIC OUTREACH

9 (a) On or before December 15, 2020, the Agency of Education, in  
10 collaboration with the State Board of Education and stakeholders from the  
11 education community, including the Vermont Superintendents Association, the  
12 Vermont School Boards Association, the Vermont Principals' Association, and  
13 the Vermont-NEA, shall develop a plan of implementation (Implementation  
14 Plan) for the Report's recommended weighting changes, found in Table E.1 of  
15 the Report's Executive Summary under the heading "New Weight Derived  
16 from Models with Controls for SWDs." This Implementation Plan shall  
17 include:

18 (1) a timeline for phasing in the equalized pupil weighting changes over  
19 three years;

20 (2) a design for the implementation that is sensitive to the effect on  
21 property taxes and budgets in all of Vermont's school districts; and

1           (3) consideration of the new formula’s interaction with other provisions  
2           of existing law, including the excess spending penalty threshold, the hold-  
3           harmless provision, the effect on nonoperating districts and the districts to  
4           which they pay tuition, small school grants, and incentives created under 2015  
5           Acts and Resolves No. 46.

6           (b) As part of its collaboration with the Agency of Education under  
7           subsection (a) of this section, on or before December 1, 2020, the State Board  
8           of Education shall hold not less than six public meetings in different regions of  
9           the State, both to help educate the public about the financial realities of the  
10           weighting formula and any changes to it and to gather public input on the  
11           Report and its proposed implementation. The Board shall refer this testimony  
12           to the Agency of Education, which shall use the input to inform its  
13           Implementation Plan.

14           (c) The Agency shall deliver its completed Implementation Plan to the  
15           House and Senate Committees on Education, the House Committee on Ways  
16           and Means, and the Senate Finance Committees not later than December 15,  
17           2020.

18           Sec. 6. REQUIREMENT FOR ADDITIONAL LEGISLATIVE ACTION

19           During the first year of the 2021–2022 biennium, the House and Senate  
20           Committees on Education shall consider the Agency’s Implementation Plan,  
21           making such changes as they may deem necessary. A positive vote of both the

1 House and Senate, and approval by the Governor, would then be required to  
2 put the Implementation Plan into effect.

3 \* \* \* Effective Date \* \* \*

4 Sec. 7. EFFECTIVE DATE

5 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.