

Whereas, hemp farmers and processors encourage Congress to reassess the definition of hemp as referenced in the 2018 Farm Bill and increase the farm production values to one percent tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) in order to allow hemp farmers to increase yield potential per acre and profitability for all hemp grown in the State, and

Whereas, increasing yield potential per acre equates to increased profit potential for Vermont's farm families and hemp processors, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly urges Congress to revise the current definition of hemp found in the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018, increasing the THC threshold from 0.3 percent to 1.0 percent, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vermont Congressional Delegation, the President Pro Tempore and Secretary of the U.S. Senate, and the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives.

Favorable

S. 242.

An act relating to funding to support a dental therapy laboratory at Vermont Technical College.

Reported favorably by Senator Sirotkin for the Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs.

(Committee vote: 5-0-0)

Second Reading

Favorable with Recommendation of Amendment

S. 46.

An act relating to ethnic and social equity studies standards for public schools.

Reported favorably with recommendation of amendment by Senator Baruth for the Committee on Education.

The Committee recommends that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. FINDINGS

(a) 2018 Acts and Resolves No. 173, Sec. 11 directed the Agency of Education to undertake a study examining and evaluating the current formula

1 S.242

2 Introduced by Senators Sirotkin, Lyons and White

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Education; Vermont Technical College; dental care; dental therapy
6 program; laboratory; appropriation

7 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to appropriate
8 \$100,000.00 in general funds for a laboratory for the dental therapy program at
9 the Vermont Technical College, provided that Vermont Technical College
10 raises \$300,000.00 through private funds.

11 An act relating to funding to support a dental therapy laboratory at Vermont
12 Technical College

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

14 Sec. 1. FINDINGS

15 (a) The General Assembly finds that the State of Vermont has a looming
16 oral health challenge due to a dental workforce nearing retirement age, no
17 dental school, and a rural landscape that limits access to oral health care. As a
18 result, approximately 100,000 people in the State went without oral health care
19 in 2011 and 2012, and 38 percent of children covered by the State's Medicaid
20 program received no dental health services in 2014.

1 (b) The General Assembly also finds that dental therapy is an effective
2 approach to address the State's oral health care crisis. In 2016, Vermont
3 became the third State in the U.S. to authorize the licensing of dental
4 therapists.

5 (c) The General Assembly further finds that Vermont Technical College
6 (VTC) offers the only dental hygiene program in the State and therefore has
7 the facility and infrastructure to develop a dental therapy program.
8 Accordingly, the General Assembly supports the establishment of a dental
9 therapy program at Vermont Technical College, including the funding of
10 expenses for a new laboratory, and laboratory and clinic supplies.

11 Sec. 2. FY 2021 GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATION; VERMONT
12 TECHNICAL COLLEGE; DENTAL THERAPY LABORATORY

13 (a) The sum of \$100,000.00 in general funds is appropriated in FY 2021 to
14 Vermont Technical College for the purpose of funding clinic and laboratory
15 supplies for a dental therapy laboratory.

16 (b) It is the intent of the General Assembly that the amount appropriated in
17 subsection (a) of this section shall be used as a challenge grant to raise funds to
18 construct the dental therapy laboratory at Vermont Technical College. The
19 funds shall only become available after Vermont Technical College has
20 notified the Chairs of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations and
21 the Commissioner of Finance and Management that \$300,000.00 in committed

1 funds has been raised to match the appropriation in subsection (a) of this
2 section and finance the construction costs for the laboratory.

3 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

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