

## Vermont Adult Career and Technical Education Association

Current President, Len Schmidt

Testimony Regarding H 533

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### What We Do:

Served over 2300 Vermonters in 2017

Provide affordable access to industry certifications – roughly 42% of our participants earned an IRC in 2017

Strategically support vulnerable populations to access training – work closely with Vermont Departments of Labor, Voc Rehab, and Commerce as well as high schools and tech centers and Adult Basic Education providers

Extend a K-12 educational system into a K-14 system for career and technical skills

Collaborate with area businesses to support up-skill training of incumbent employees– Assistant Directors for Adult Education at each center work closely with area businesses.

Understand local workforce needs through collaboration with WIB's, dedicated Adult CTE program advisory councils, service on Chamber of Commerce boards of directors, and partnering with Economic Development Corporations

### How We Do It:

Tech Center staffing for adult CTE programming ranges from roughly .2 FTE to 1.2 FTE

Typical funding sources are in the neighborhood of 10-20% of revenue from Department of Labor, 5-20% from Agency of Education, and 60-85% from tuition and fees

Access to under-utilized Tech Center resources after school hours

Each individual Center develops Memoranda of agreement to access clinical and other site-specific training opportunities

VACTEA provides opportunities for statewide program delivery, curriculum development and sharing, mentoring,

### Barriers

#### **Not incorporated into Dual Enrollment programs – limits access for HS students**

Needed support of Adult Technical Education at the state level – website(s), program development, publicity and advertising, advocacy, curriculum coordination, data collection, quality control, grant and training provider application technical assistance

Competitive relationships with other training providers – VACTEA works to stay in post-secondary technician-level credential of value lane

High reliance on tuition revenue to serve Vermont's most vulnerable students

Difficulty accessing DOL support at the local level

Difficulty accessing space for daytime Adult CTE programming when needed

Tech Center revenue structure encourages focus on high school programming

Historic unpredictability of VSAC non-degree grant availability

Gaps in tuition support mechanisms

## Opportunities

**Dual enrollment participation by high school students with disabilities is around 3%.\*  
Expanding dual-enrollment to include Adult CTE programming has the potential to significantly increase this.**

Current composition of Vermont Adult CTE Association (VACTEA) is generally very supportive of state-wide collaboration

Pilot projects are demonstrating viability of state-level programming through VACTEA

Equipment Grant funded in 2018 has provided incentives and momentum towards regional collaboration in adult CTE

Growing educational and community awareness around stackable credentials

Work of Vermont Talent Pipeline Management helps to identify and solidify recognition of credentials so that our programs can respond

Provide on-ramp for vulnerable students to VSC system:

<b>Adult CTE Programs</b>	<b>VTC/CCV Programs</b>
LNA, MNA	LPN, RN
Emergency Medical Technician	Paramedicine
EPA 608, Oil Burner Bronze, Propane Technician	Plumbing Apprentice
NCCER Construction	Construction Management
Fundamentals in Early Childcare	Associates Degree in Early Childhood Education

- Vermont Agency of Education, Report on Act 77 of 2013, revised January 8, 2018