

1 Introduced by Committee on Education

2 Referred to Committee on

3 Date:

4 Subject: Education; Vermont Technical College; career technical education
5 centers; study

6 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require the
7 Vermont Technical College to study how to best deliver Vermont Technical
8 College certificate and degree programs at career technical education centers in
9 Vermont.

10 An act relating to a study of how to best deliver Vermont Technical College
11 certificate and degree programs at career technical education centers in
12 Vermont

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

14 Sec. 1. DELIVERY OF VERMONT TECHNICAL COLLEGE

15 CERTIFICATE AND DEGREE PROGRAMS AT CAREER

16 TECHNICAL EDUCATION CENTERS IN VERMONT; STUDY

17 (a) Findings and purpose:

18 ~~(1) it is imperative to have a skilled workforce to support Vermont's~~
19 ~~economy;~~

20 (1) Vermont has as a goal of 70 percent of the Vermont workforce
21 having a credential of value by 2025;

1 (2) most of current and future jobs will require some education beyond
2 high school;

3 (3) approximately 40 percent of Vermont high school graduates do not
4 pursue education beyond high school;

5 (4) a growing percentage of the Vermont workforce is in need of skills
6 attainment or upgrade;

7 (5) college has become increasingly less affordable to Vermonters;

8 (6) Vermont Technical College (VTC) and Vermont’s career technical
9 education centers (CTE centers) desire have expressed a desire for a stronger
10 partnership to foster pathways for students attending CTE centers and high
11 schools to attend college; and

12 (7) the General Assembly desires to initiate assessment and planning for
13 the delivery of accredited college education at CTE centers in Vermont as a
14 means of enabling more Vermonters to access quality college-level technical
15 education that will lead to well-paying jobs and careers.

16 (b) Study by VTC.

17 (1) VTC shall study how to best deliver all or a portion of fully
18 accredited VTC certificate and degree programs at CTE centers in Vermont,
19 with the goals of:

20 (A) enabling more students to access education beyond high school;

21 (B) providing pathways to VTC;

- 1 (C) enabling more students to obtain a degree from VTC; and
- 2 (D) meeting economic development and workforce education needs.

3 (2) The study shall examine the following:

4 (A) existing models around the United States or internationally that
5 deliver all or a portion of accredited college programs at high schools or
6 secondary technical centers, with a special focus on rural regions and regions
7 with declining populations;

8 (B) appropriate VTC programs to deliver, considering the following:

9 (i) labs, equipment, faculty, and support needs and availability;

10 (ii) local employer partners and the potential for further
11 partnerships with local employers;

12 (iii) demographics of existing CTE programs;

13 (iv) bargaining unit impacts;

14 (v) staffing;

15 (vi) level of faculty involvement required; and

16 (vii) appropriate CTE centers to potentially pilot a program and
17 the process for selecting the CTE centers;

18 (C) the financial risks to any institutions of programmatic and
19 funding model changes, with the goals of not negatively impacting the
20 accreditation status or the financial status of any institution, including
21 consideration of:

1 ~~(i) long- and short-term financial impacts to all institutions; and~~

2 ~~(ii) State funding projections;~~

3 (D) meeting accreditation standards and the required approvals by
4 accrediting bodies, including:

5 ~~(i) meeting faculty degree requirements;~~

6 ~~(ii) providing the same supports to all students, for all modalities,~~
7 ~~in all locations;~~

8 ~~(iii) transfer of credits;~~

9 ~~(iv) assessing learning outcomes;~~

10 ~~(v) advising needs;~~

11 ~~(vi) meeting disability and other equity requirements;~~

12 ~~(vii) tutoring; and~~

13 ~~(viii) intellectual property;~~

14 (E) funding models, including costs for students, institutions, and
15 adults, considering the following:

16 ~~(i) CTE funding;~~

17 ~~(ii) early college funding;~~

18 ~~(iii) federal assistance;~~

19 ~~(iii) nondegree grants;~~

20 ~~(iv) costs for books and labs;~~

21 ~~(v) access to college-level co-curricular activities; and~~

1 ~~(vi) career placement support;~~

2 (F) ~~program scheduling, considering the following:~~

3 ~~(i) enabling CTE seniors to complete their high school credits~~
4 ~~while obtaining college credits in the same academic year;~~

5 ~~(ii) opportunities or needs to extend the program to high school~~
6 ~~juniors;~~

7 ~~(iii) enabling working adults the opportunity to access accredited,~~
8 ~~college level programs;~~

9 ~~(iv) incorporating needed labs and clinical placements in the~~
10 ~~program; and~~

11 ~~(v) alternative delivery modalities; and~~

12 (G) resources needed for the best financial and academic outcomes
13 for students and all institutions involved.

14 ~~(c) VTC may apply funding appropriated for the study under subsection (b)~~
15 ~~of this section to hire appropriate expertise to provide a comprehensive~~
16 ~~evaluation of the opportunities, challenges, and outcomes, and creating a road~~
17 ~~map, for piloting VTC complete or partial degree delivery at select CTE~~
18 ~~centers.~~

19 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

20 This act shall take effect on passage.