

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. SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION; FACILITIES STANDARDS;
8 CAPITAL OUTLAY FINANCING FORMULA; AGENCY OF
9 EDUCATION; STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION; UPDATE

10 (a) On or before January 15, 2021, the Secretary of Education, in
11 consultation with the Executive Director of the Vermont Superintendents
12 Association, the Chair of the State Board of Education, and the Commissioner
13 of Buildings and General Services, shall update the school construction
14 facilities standards. The update shall reflect modern educational requirements
15 and opportunities.

16 (b) On or before January 15, 2021, the State Board of Education shall
17 update and adopt a Capital Outlay Financing Formula. Pursuant to State Board
18 Rule 6124.1, the Formula shall establish the maximum and minimum square
19 footage parameters by school size, and grade range through a square footage
20 allowance per student or program. The Formula shall also establish an
21 allowable cost per square foot of construction.

1 Sec. 2. SCHOOL FACILITIES CONDITIONS ANALYSIS; AGENCY OF
2 EDUCATION; DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS AND GENERAL
3 SERVICES

4 (a) On or before February 15, 2021, the Secretary of Education, in
5 coordination with the Commissioner of Buildings and General Services, shall
6 issue a request for proposal for a school facilities conditions analysis to inform
7 the Agency of Education of the statewide school facilities needs and costs.
8 The analysis shall include a review of both school facilities conditions and
9 space needs.

10 (b) The Secretary of Education shall contract with an independent third
11 party to conduct the analysis described in subsection (a) of this section. The
12 analysis shall be completed on or before June 15, 2023.

13 (c) The amount of \$1,500,000.00 is appropriated from the Education Fund
14 to the Secretary of Education to conduct the analysis described in this section.

15 (d) As used in this section, “school” has the same meaning as in 16 V.S.A.
16 § 3447.

17 Sec. 3. SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION FUNDING; AGENCY OF
18 EDUCATION; REPORT

19 (a) On or before December 15, 2023, the Secretary of Education, in
20 consultation with the State Treasurer and the Executive Director of the
21 Vermont Bond Bank, shall submit a report to the House Committees on

1 Corrections and Institutions and on Education and the Senate Committees on
2 Education and on Institutions that shall include the following:

3 (1) an analysis of the challenges and opportunities to the State, if any, of
4 funding school construction projects;

5 (2) recommendations for a funding source, if any, for school
6 construction projects that are linked to the inventory, needs, and conditions of
7 all Vermont schools; and

8 (3) an analysis of how other states are funding school construction
9 projects.

10 (b) As used in this section, “school” has the same meaning as in 16 V.S.A.
11 § 3447.

12 Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE

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

14

15 (Committee vote: _____)

16

17

18

Representative _____

FOR THE COMMITTEE