Introduced by Representatives Scheuerman of Stowe, Higley of Lowell, Mrowicki of Putney, Page of Newport City, Patt of Worcester, Savage of Swanton, and Strong of Albany

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Education; school district consolidation; evaluation of Act 46

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require the Agency of Education to evaluate the successes and failures of Act 46.

An act relating to the evaluation of Act 46

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

Sec. 1. ACT 46 EVALUATION AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

On or before each of November 1, 2021, November 1, 2022, and November 1, 2023, the Agency of Education shall submit a written report to the House and Senate Committees on Education, the House Committee on Ways and Means, and the Senate Committee on Finance with its findings on the successes and failures of the implementation of 2015 Acts and Resolves No. 46, as amended, including:

(1) whether, and the extent to which, each of the act’s five goals have been met, which are to:
(A) provide substantial equity in the quality and variety of educational opportunities statewide;

(B) lead students to achieve or exceed the State’s Education Quality Standards, adopted as rules by the State Board of Education at the direction of the General Assembly;

(C) maximize operational efficiencies through increased flexibility to manage, share, and transfer resources with a goal of increasing the district-level ratio of students to full-time equivalent staff;

(D) promote transparency and accountability; and

(E) deliver education at a cost that parents, voters, and taxpayers value;

(2) if a goal has not been met, the reasons for the failure and recommendations to achieve that goal; and

(3) the fiscal impact of the act, including:

(A) the cost of implementing the tax incentives;

(B) the amount saved through mergers under the act; and

(C) the results in statewide education spending and what Vermonters pay for education.

Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on passage.