1	Language for Rep. Marcotte re creation of the Secondary Advancement
2	Grants Pilot Project
3	Sec. X. SECONDARY ADVANCEMENT GRANTS PILOT PROJECT;
4	REPORT
5	(a) Pilot Project creation. There is created the Secondary Advancement
6	Grants Pilot Project (Pilot Project) to provide funding for secondary students
7	taking nondegree postsecondary or adult courses at a career and technical
8	center.
9	(b) Eligible students.
10	(1) A Vermont resident who has completed grade 10 but has not
11	received a high school diploma is eligible to participate in the Pilot Project if:
12	(A) none of the payment to the regional career and technical center
13	will be used to support religious instruction, religious indoctrination, religious
14	worship, or the propagation of religious views, except for religious instruction
15	that is designed to provide an overview of religious history and teachings and
16	does not support religious instruction, religious indoctrination, religious
17	worship, or the propagation of religious reviews of any one religion or
18	theology over others;
19	(B) the student is not enrolled in a recognized independent school or
20	a school or program that is not recognized for attendance purposes under
21	<u>16 V.S.A. § 1121;</u>

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1	(C) enrolling in a postsecondary or adult career and technical center
2	course is an element included within the student's personalized learning plan;
3	and
4	(D) the secondary school and the career and technical center have
5	determined that the student is sufficiently prepared to succeed in the selected
6	postsecondary or adult course and meets the course prerequisites.
7	(2) An eligible student may enroll in one postsecondary or adult career
8	and technical center course prior to completion of secondary school for which
9	neither the student nor the student's parent or guardian shall be required to pay
10	tuition. A student may enroll in a course offered while secondary school is in
11	session and during the summer.
12	(c) Postsecondary and adult career technical education. Secondary students
13	may take courses that fall under the definitions of adult career technical
14	education or postsecondary career technical education as they are defined in
15	16 V.S.A. § 1522(11) and (12). The postsecondary or adult course may be
16	taken at any regional career and technical center, as defined in 16 V.S.A.
17	<u>§ 1522(4).</u>
18	(d) Pilot Project management. The Agency of Education, in consultation
19	with the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation (VSAC), shall manage the
20	Pilot Project by:
21	(1) marketing the Pilot Project to Vermont students and their families;

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1	(2) coordinating with VSAC on the disbursement of funds for tuition
2	and stipends;
3	(3) evaluating all aspects of the Pilot Project and ensuring overall
4	quality and accountability; and
5	(4) performing other necessary or related duties.
6	(e) Funding. Notwithstanding 16 V.S.A. § 4025(d), in fiscal year 2023, the
7	sum of \$300,000.00 is appropriated from the Education Fund to the Agency of
8	Education, which may be used over not more than three years, for the purpose
9	of funding the Pilot Project. Funds shall be granted to eligible students on a
10	first-come, first-served basis until funds are depleted. The funds appropriated
11	in this subdivision shall come out of the \$15,000,000.00 appropriated in Sec.
12	12, subdivision (b)(1) of this act.
13	(1) The funds appropriated in this section may be used by an eligible
14	student for tuition for one postsecondary or adult course at a regional career
15	and technical center.
16	(2) The funds appropriated in this section may also be used to fund a
17	flat-rate, need-based stipend or voucher for financially needy students taking a
18	course under the Pilot Project. The stipend or voucher shall be used for the
19	purchase of books, cost of transportation, and payment of fees. The Agency of
20	Education shall coordinate with the VSAC to establish criteria for stipend
21	eligibility and for stipend disbursement.

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1	(f) Report. The Secretary of Education shall report to the House and
2	Senate Committees on Education, the House Committee on Commerce and
3	Economic Development, and the Senate Committee on Economic
4	Development, Housing and General Affairs on or before the January 15 of
5	each year the Pilot Project has funds to use regarding the Secondary
6	Advancement Grants Pilot Project, including data relating to student
7	demographics, levels of participation, marketing, and program success. In the
8	year the Pilot Project has depleted its funds, or the third year of the Pilot
9	Project, whichever comes first, the report shall include a recommendation for
10	whether the Pilot Project shall be extended, including specific
11	recommendations for legislative action.