

1 TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

2 The Committee on Ways and Means to which was referred House Bill
3 No. 703 entitled “An act relating to promoting workforce development”
4 respectfully reports that it has considered the same and recommends that the
5 report of the Committee on Commerce and Economic Development be
6 amended as follows:

7 First: By striking out Sec. 3, funding and governance structures of career
8 technical education in Vermont, in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a
9 new Sec. 3 to read as follows:

10 Sec. 3. FUNDING AND GOVERNANCE STRUCTURES OF
11 CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN VERMONT

12 (a) There is appropriated to the Joint Fiscal Office for fiscal year 2023 the
13 amount of \$180,000.00 from the General Fund to contract for services to:

14 (1) complete a systematic examination of the existing funding structures
15 of career technical education (CTE) in Vermont and how these structures
16 impede or promote the State’s educational and workforce development goals;

17 (2) examine CTE governance structures in relationship to those funding
18 structures;

19 (3) examine the implications of the existing funding and governance
20 structures for kindergarten through grade 12 schools and adult education;

1 (4) examine the funding and alignment of early college and dual
2 enrollment;

3 (5) consider the CTE funding and governance structures in other states
4 in relation to Vermont’s unique system of funding education; and

5 (6) identify and prioritize potential new models of CTE funding and
6 governance structures to reduce barriers to enrollment and to improve the
7 quality, duration, impact, and access to CTE statewide.

8 (b) In performing its work, the contractor shall consult with the consultant
9 and any other stakeholders involved in completing the report on the design,
10 implementation, and costs of an integrated and coherent adult basic education,
11 adult secondary education, and postsecondary career and technical education
12 system pursuant to 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 74, Sec. H.3.

13 (c)(1) On or before March 1, 2023, the Joint Fiscal Office shall issue a
14 written report to the House and Senate Committees on Education, the House
15 Committee on Commerce and Economic Development, the Senate Committee
16 on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs, the House
17 Committee on Ways and Means, and the Senate Committee on Finance the
18 work performed pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

19 (2) On or before July 1, 2023, the Agency of Education shall develop an
20 implementation plan, including recommended steps to design and implement
21 new funding and governance models, and issue a written report to the House

1 and Senate Committees on Education, the House Committee on Commerce and
2 Economic Development, the Senate Committee on Economic Development,
3 Housing and General Affairs, the House Committee on Ways and Means, and
4 the Senate Committee on Finance describing the results of its work under
5 subsection (a) of this section and making recommendations for legislative
6 action.

7 Second: By striking out Sec. 20, 18 V.S.A. § 35, in its entirety and
8 inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec. 20 to read as follows:

9 Sec. 20. 18 V.S.A. § 35 is added to read:

10 § 35. VERMONT NURSING AND PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT LOAN

11 REPAYMENT PROGRAM

12 (a) As used in this section:

13 (1) “Corporation” means the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation
14 established in 16 V.S.A. § 2821.

15 (2) “Eligible individual” means an individual who satisfies the eligibility
16 requirements for loan repayment under this section.

17 (3) “Eligible school” means an approved postsecondary education
18 institution, as defined under 16 V.S.A. § 2822.

19 (4) “Loan repayment” means the cancellation and repayment of loans
20 under this section.

1 (5) “Loans” means education loans guaranteed, made, financed,
2 serviced, or otherwise administered by the Corporation under this subchapter
3 for attendance at an eligible school.

4 (6) “Program” means the Vermont Nursing and Physician Assistant
5 Loan Repayment Program created under this section.

6 (b) The Vermont Nursing and Physician Assistant Loan Repayment
7 Program is created and shall be administered by the Department of Health in
8 collaboration with the Corporation. The Program provides loan repayment on
9 behalf of individuals who live and work as a nurse or physician assistant in this
10 State and who meet the eligibility requirements in subsection (e) of this
11 section.

12 (c) The loan repayment benefits provided under the Program shall be paid
13 on behalf of the eligible individual by the Corporation, subject to the
14 appropriation of funds by the General Assembly specifically for this purpose.

15 (d) To be eligible for loan repayment under the Program, an individual
16 shall satisfy all of the following requirements:

17 (1) have graduated from an eligible school where the individual has,
18 within the past five years, been awarded a nursing degree or a master’s degree
19 in physician assistant studies;

1 (2) had an overall 2.5 grade point average or better or the equivalent as
2 determined by the Corporation if the eligible school does not use grade point
3 averages from the eligible school;

4 (3) work as a nurse or physician assistant in this State; and

5 (4) be a resident of Vermont.

6 (f)(1) An eligible individual shall be entitled to an amount of loan
7 cancellation and repayment under this section equal to one year of loans for
8 every for one year of service as a nurse or physician assistant in this State.

9 (2) The Corporation shall award loan repayments in amounts that are
10 sufficient to attract high-quality candidates while also making a meaningful
11 increase in Vermont’s health care professional workforce.

12 (i) The Corporation shall adopt policies, procedures, and guidelines
13 necessary to implement the provisions of this section.

14 Third: By striking out Sec. 21, Vermont Nursing Loan Repayment
15 Program; appropriation, in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec.
16 21 to read as follows:

17 Sec. 21. VERMONT NURSING AND PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT LOAN
18 REPAYMENT PROGRAM; APPROPRIATION

19 The sum of \$2,000,000.00 is appropriated from the General Fund to the
20 Department of Health in fiscal year 2023 for loan repayment for nurses and

1 physician assistants under the Vermont Nursing and Physician Assistant Loan
2 Repayment Program established in Sec. 20 of this act.

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8 (Committee vote: _____)

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Representative _____

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FOR THE COMMITTEE