

Vermont Legislative Joint Fiscal Office

One Baldwin Street • Montpelier, VT 05633-5701 • (802) 828-2295 • Fax: (802) 828-2483

FISCAL NOTE

Date: March 25, 2021

Prepared by: Mark Perrault

H.426 An act relating to addressing the needs and conditions of public school facilities in the State as passed by the House

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2022/Docs/BILLS/H-0426/H-0426%20As%20Passed%20by%20the%20House%20Unofficial.pdf>

Summary – This bill appropriates: (1) \$2.5 million from Federal funds allocated to the Agency of Education for a school facilities condition assessment; and (2) \$125,500 from Federal funds allocated to the Agency of Education for a limited service position.

Sec. 2 – Requires the Secretary of Education to update the state’s school construction facilities standards. Authorizes the State Board of Education to use not more than \$100,000 of the amount appropriated in Section 3(d) of this bill to hire a consultant to provide technical assistance.

Sec. 3 – Requires the Secretary of Education to contract with an independent third party to conduct a public school facilities conditions assessment on or before September 1, 2021. The assessment must be completed on or before October 1, 2022.

Authorizes the use of not more than \$2.5 million of the amount allocated to the Agency of Education (AOE) for this purpose provided that:

- (1) Not more than \$627,500 shall be used from the amount allocated to AOE from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (ESSER I); and
- (2) Not more than \$1,872,500 shall be used from the amount allocated to the AOE from the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER II) .

Sec. 7 – Creates one limited-service position funded through January 15, 2023 in the Agency of Education. Authorizes AOE to use not more than \$127,500 from the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER II).

Sec. 8 – Provides that sections 2, 3, and 7 of this bill become effective on passage.