	1	TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:
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2	The Committee on Education to which was referred House Bill No. 716
3	entitled "An act relating to making miscellaneous changes in education law"
4	respectfully reports that it has considered the same and recommends that the
5	Senate propose to the House that the bill be amended by striking out all after
6	the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:
7	* * * Special Education Funding * * *
8	Sec. 1. 16 V.S.A. § 2961 is amended to read:
9	§ 2961. CENSUS GRANT
10	* * *
11	(d)(1)(A) For fiscal year 2023, the amount of the census grant for a
12	supervisory union shall be:
13	(i) the average amount it received for fiscal years 2018, 2019, and
14	2020, or the average amount it received for fiscal years 2019, 2020, and 2021,
15	whichever amount is greater, from the State for special education under
16	sections 2961 (standard mainstream block grants), 2963 (special education
17	expenditures reimbursement), and 2963a (exceptional circumstances) of this
18	title; increased by
19	(ii) the annual change in the National Income and Product
20	Accounts (NIPA) Implicit Price Deflator for State and Local Government

1	Consumption Expenditures and Gross Investment as reported by the
2	U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis.
3	* * *
4	* * * Special Education Rule Change; Delay * * *
5	Sec. 2. STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION 2360 RULE SERIES; PARTIAL
6	DELAY
7	(a) Intent. It is the intent of the General Assembly to allow educators and
8	staff time to adequately prepare for the delivery of special education services
9	as required under the State Board of Education Special Education Rules Series
10	2360, which takes effect on July 1, 2022.
11	(b) Extension. Therefore, notwithstanding any provision of law to the
12	contrary under 16 V.S.A. § 164 and 3 V.S.A. § 845(d), in order to ensure that
13	educators and staff are adequately prepared to comply with Board Rules 2362
14	and 2362.2.5, the Agency of Education, may, upon request, grant an extension
15	for compliance with those rules on a school-by-school basis.
16	(1) An extension request shall be made in writing and contain the
17	following:
18	(A) the name and contact information for the school requesting the
19	extension;
20	(B) the specific rule a compliance extension is being sought for;

1	(C) a detailed explanation of why the school will not be prepared to
2	comply with Board Rule 2362 or 2362.2.5, or both, on or before July 1, 2022;
3	(D) a detailed plan for coming into compliance, including a timeline
4	of actions the school is taking to work toward compliance; and
5	(E) a proposed compliance date.
6	(2) The Agency shall grant a compliance extension request if the request
7	is reasonable and contains adequate information to ensure compliance by the
8	proposed compliance date contained in the request. If the compliance
9	extension request is granted, the Agency shall determine the final compliance
10	<mark>date.</mark>
11	(3) No compliance extension request shall be granted after July 1, 2023.
12	* * * Civic Education; Report * * *
13	Sec. 3. CIVIC EDUCATION; AGENCY OF EDUCATION REPORT
14	On or before January 15, 2023, the Agency of Education shall submit a
15	written report to the House and Senate Committees on Education regarding the
16	Agency's plan to ensure Vermont teachers have the support and resources
17	necessary to provide innovative and effective civics instruction to elementary,
18	secondary, and adult students.

1	* * * Crime Insurance Coverage for School Districts * * *
2	Sec. 4. 16 V.S.A. § 492 is amended to read:
3	§ 492. POWERS, DUTIES, AND LIABILITIES; BONDS
4	(a) The powers, duties, and liabilities of the collector, treasurer, prudential
5	committee, and clerk shall be like those of a town collector, treasurer, board of
6	school directors, and the school board clerk, respectively.
7	(b) Before entering upon their duties, the collector and treasurer shall give a
8	bond to the district conditioned for the faithful performance of their duties, in
9	such sum as may be required. When In lieu of taking a bond from a collector
10	or treasurer, or both, a school district may choose to provide suitable crime
11	insurance covering the collector or treasurer, or both. If a school district has
12	not provided suitable crime insurance in lieu of a bond and a collector or
13	treasurer for ten days neglects to give a bond as required, his or her that office
14	shall be vacant.
15	* * *
16	* * * GrowVT-Ed Program * * *
17	Sec. 5. EDUCATOR WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT; APPROPRIATION;
18	REPORT
19	(a) Purpose. The purpose of this section is to encourage and support the
20	development and retention of qualified and effective Vermont educators. To
21	combat the growing educator shortage throughout the State and meet the needs

1	of Vermont students, it is necessary to invest in nontraditional educator
2	training programs. The Vermont National Education Association's GrowVT-
3	Ed Academy provides the support, guidance, and curriculum design that
4	prospective educators need to successfully obtain licensure through the
5	Vermont Agency of Education's peer review process. Prospective educators
6	are supported through the peer review application process and meet weekly
7	during the development of the peer review portfolio for the mentoring,
8	professional development, and observation necessary for successful licensure.
9	(b) Appropriation. Notwithstanding 16 V.S.A. § 4025(d), the sum of
10	\$1,425,000.00 is appropriated from the Education Fund to the Agency of
11	Education in fiscal year 2023 for the purpose of funding program and licensing
12	costs for up to 300 individuals who participate in the Vermont National
13	Education Association's GrowVT-Ed Academy to become licensed Vermont
14	educators through the peer review process.
15	(1) These funds shall be used for the costs of mentors, instructors,
16	licensing fees, and program materials on a per-participant basis.
17	(2) The Agency shall develop a process through which local school
18	districts notify the Agency when they have prospective educators enrolled in
19	the GrowVT-ED Academy. The Agency shall transmit funds to cover the cost
20	of program materials, instructors, and mentors to the school district within
21	which each prospective educator is working. The Agency shall retain the

1	portfolio licensing fee for each prospective educator to be applied upon
2	submission of the peer review portfolio for review by the Agency's Peer
3	Review Coordinator.
4	(c) On or before January 15, 2023, the Agency of Education, in
5	consultation with the Vermont National Education Association, shall report to
6	the Senate and House Committees on Education on the status of the
7	implementation of this section, including information on the number of
8	prospective educators participating in the GrowVT-Ed Academy and any
9	recommendations for legislative action.
10	* * * Effective Date * * *
11	Sec. 6. EFFECTIVE DATE
12	This act shall take effect on July 1, 2022.
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14	
15	
16	
17	(Committee vote:)
18	
19	Senator
20	FOR THE COMMITTEE