



Vermont
Superintendents
Association

Vermont Senate Education Committee

Testimony of Jeffrey Francis, Executive Director for the Vermont Superintendents Association

February 16, 2022

H.572 - Service as an Interim Educator - Teachers' Retirement System

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this written testimony regarding H.572 and considerations for its incorporation within the miscellaneous education bill under discussion in the Senate Education Committee.

The Vermont Superintendents Association supports the provisions outlined in H.572 and considers the approach a useful and responsible way to address the worker shortage in public education brought about by the pandemic and other factors. Many school districts are seeing increased vacancies and are struggling to fill positions. Establishing an option of employing retired educators on an interim basis will reduce the pressures associated with that challenge and be useful to the district, and significantly, the students being served by the school system.

We are content with the bill as written, but the Committee may wish to give consideration for allowing the ability to work for two consecutive years under the guidelines established within the bill, since we can reasonably expect that the dynamics associated with worker shortages will continue for the foreseeable future.

Thank you again for the opportunity to submit this testimony.