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H.275

Introduced by Representatives Dolan of Waitsfield, Anthony of Barre City,
Austin of Colchester, Boyden of Cambridge, Brady of
Williston, Goslant of Northfield, Hango of Berkshire, Higley of
Lowell, Hooper of Randolph, Hooper of Burlington, Jerome of
Brandon, Lipsky of Stowe, McCann of Montpelier, Morgan of
Milton, Priestley of Bradford, Roberts of Halifax, Smith of
Derby, Toof of St. Albans Town, and Torre of Moretown

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Education; career and technical education

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to create the
Introduction to Trade School Education Grant Pilot Project for schools serving
grades eight and nine to establish career technical education programs. The
grant funding will be for the first two years of the Pilot Project, with schools
required to commit to maintaining and funding for an additional three years.

An act relating to the Introduction to Trade School Education Grant Pilot
Project

1 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

2 Sec. 1. INTRODUCTION TO TRADE SCHOOL EDUCATION GRANT

3 PILOT PROJECT

4 (a) Pilot project creation. There is created the Introduction to Trade School
5 Education Grant Pilot Project to provide funding for schools to create a career
6 technical education program within schools serving students in grades eight
7 and nine as a feeder program for regional career technical education centers.

8 (b) Eligible schools. A school is eligible for the Pilot Project if it:

9 (1) is located within a union school district;

10 (2) is located more than 15 miles from the nearest career and technical
11 education center;

12 (3) agrees to match the grant contribution through the provision of
13 space, transportation, maintenance of equipment costs, or through in-kind
14 support;

15 (4) commits to maintaining its career technical education program for a
16 minimum of five years; and

17 (5) invites local businesses to volunteer and mentor students.

18 (c) Grant administration.

19 (1) Not later than 30 days after the effective date of this section, the
20 Agency of Education shall develop, make available, and review for approval
21 an application for Pilot Project grant funding. The application shall include:

1 (A) the school's name and location;

2 (B) proposed course offerings;

3 (C) the school's plan to match grant contributions and continue to
4 fund and maintain the program for three years after the initial two years of
5 grant funding;

6 (D) certification that the school commits to maintaining its career and
7 technical education program for a minimum of five years;

8 (E) a list of local businesses that have agreed to volunteer and mentor
9 students; and

10 (F) estimated costs for one full-time teacher and equipment.

11 (2) Grants for approved eligible schools shall fund one full-time teacher
12 for two years and equipment costs, with up to \$450,000.00 total per grant.

13 After the initial grant and first two years of the Pilot Program, all costs shall be
14 borne by the school district, including teacher salary and equipment

15 maintenance. Schools are encouraged to accept public, private, and nonprofit
16 donations to support the Pilot Program.

17 (d) Report. The Agency of Education shall report to the House and Senate

18 Committees on Education on or before January 15, 2024 and January 15, 2025

19 regarding the use of funds appropriated in this section, including data on

20 student participation, number of students who go on to participate in career

21 technical education through the student's regional center, and each

1 participating school's match and sustainability plan to continue the Pilot
2 Program for three additional years.

3 (e) Appropriation.

4 (1) Notwithstanding 16 V.S.A. § 4025(d), the sum of \$5,500,000.00 is
5 appropriated from the Education Fund to the Agency of Education in fiscal
6 year 2024 for the purpose of funding the Introduction to Trade School
7 Education Grant Pilot Project pursuant to this section.

8 (2) The Agency shall not use more than two percent of the funds
9 appropriated under this section for its costs of administration.

10 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

11 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2023.