

1 TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

2 The Committee on Education to which was referred Senate Bill No. 304
3 entitled “An act relating to Vermont’s career and technical education
4 programs” respectfully reports that it has considered the same and recommends
5 that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and
6 inserting in lieu thereof the following:

7 * * * CTE Opportunities for Grades Six through 10 * * *

8 Sec. 1. 16 V.S.A. § 1541a is amended to read:

9 § 1541a. RESPONSIBILITY OF LOCAL BOARDS IN SENDING
10 DISTRICTS

11 (a) A school board of a sending district that offers public education in
12 grade 11 or 12 shall:

13 (1) Provide students enrolled in grades 11 and 12 with a genuine
14 opportunity to participate fully and to benefit from career technical education.

15 * * *

16 (4) Provide students in grades six through eight with career enrichment
17 and exposure. Such exposure shall include visits to or equivalent virtual
18 experiences with the school district’s regional career and technical education
19 center at least once between the grades of six and eight.

1 (5) Provide students enrolled in grades nine and 10 a genuine
2 opportunity to participate fully in pre-tech and exploratory career and technical
3 courses.

4 * * *

5 Sec. 2. 16 V.S.A. § 1547 is added to read:

6 § 1547. COMPREHENSIVE CAREER DEVELOPMENT POLICY

7 (a) The Secretary of Education, in consultation with the Commissioner of
8 Labor, shall develop a model Comprehensive Career Development Policy for
9 all secondary students. The Secretary shall review the model policy not less
10 than every five years and make a determination as to whether the policy needs
11 updating. The model policy shall ensure each student has the opportunity for
12 robust discussion and planning regarding the student's career awareness,
13 exploration, and future goals, consistent with the student's personalized
14 learning plan. The policy shall require each school district to partner with its
15 regional CTE center to develop and ensure the provision of career planning.
16 The policy shall encourage districts to work regionally together in alignment
17 on this policy implementation to preserve CTE capacity.

18 (b) Each school district board shall develop, adopt, and ensure
19 implementation of a policy and plan for comprehensive career development
20 that is consistent with and at least as comprehensive as the model policy
21 developed by the Secretary. Any school district board that fails to adopt such a

1 policy or procedures shall be presumed to have adopted the most current model
2 policy and procedures published by the Secretary.

3 Sec. 3. DEVELOPMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE CAREER

4 DEVELOPMENT POLICY; REPORT

5 (a) On or before December 1, 2024, the Secretary of Education shall
6 develop and issue the model Comprehensive Career Development Policy
7 required under 16 V.S.A. § 1547.

8 (b) On or before June 30, 2025, each school district board shall develop,
9 adopt, and ensure implementation of a policy and plan for comprehensive
10 career development that is consistent with and at least as comprehensive as the
11 model policy developed by the Secretary as required under 16 V.S.A. § 1547.

12 * * * Construction Aid * * *

13 Sec. 4. CONSTRUCTION AID; CAREER AND TECHNICAL

14 EDUCATION

15 It is the intent of the General Assembly to ensure that career and technical
16 education centers and their associated facilities are appropriately and equitably
17 included in future updates to the State's construction aid program under
18 16 V.S.A. chapter 123.

1 * * * CTE Oversight * * *

2 Sec. 5. 16 V.S.A. chapter 37, subchapter 2 is amended to read:

3 Subchapter 2. ~~State Board of Education~~ Oversight of Career and Technical
4 Education

5 § 1531. RESPONSIBILITY OF ~~STATE BOARD~~ SECRETARY

6 (a) The ~~State Board~~ Secretary has overall responsibility for the
7 effectiveness of career technical education. This requires the ~~Board~~ Secretary
8 to collect suitable information and to take appropriate steps within ~~its~~ the
9 Secretary's legal, financial, and personnel resources to ensure that:

10 * * *

11 (b) In order to provide regional career technical education services
12 efficiently, the ~~State Board~~ Secretary shall designate a service region for each
13 career technical center. However, the ~~Board~~ Secretary may designate a service
14 region for two or more comprehensive high schools if that region is not served
15 by a career technical center.

16 (c) For a school district that is geographically isolated from a Vermont
17 career technical center, the ~~State Board~~ Secretary may approve a career
18 technical center in another state as the career technical center that district
19 students may attend. In this case, the school district shall receive
20 transportation assistance pursuant to section 1563 of this title and tuition
21 assistance pursuant to subsection 1561(c) of this title. Any student who is a

1 resident in the Windham Southwest Supervisory Union and who is enrolled at
2 public expense in the Charles H. McCann Technical School or the Franklin
3 County Technical School shall be considered to be attending an approved
4 career technical center in another state pursuant to this subsection, and, if the
5 student is from a school district eligible for a merger support grant pursuant to
6 section 4015 of this title or a small school weight pursuant to section 4010 of
7 this title, the student's full-time equivalency shall be computed according to
8 time attending the school.

9 § 1532. MINIMUM STANDARDS; MEASUREMENT OF STANDARDS

10 (a) The ~~State Board~~ Agency of Education shall adopt by rule:

11 (1) Minimum standards for the operation and performance of career
12 technical centers that include the education quality standards adopted by the
13 State Board under subdivision 164(9) and section 165 of this title.

14 (2) Standards for student performance based on the standards adopted
15 by the State Board under subdivision 164(9) of this title and standards for
16 industry recognized credentials.

17 * * *

18 (b) The following shall be adopted by procedure or rule:

19 (1) ~~competencies~~ proficiencies that graduates of each kind of career
20 technical program should be able to demonstrate, including career technical
21 competencies necessary for the student's intended employment;

1 coherent program, and coordinating its program with postsecondary career
2 technical education services;

3 (6) the satisfaction of the center’s customer groups, including graduates,
4 sending schools, and local industry;

5 (7) the adequacy and effectiveness of the center in meeting the
6 educational and employment needs of all its eligible students, including its
7 success in taking steps to encourage each student to consider enrolling in
8 courses not traditional for that student’s gender; and

9 (8) alignment of the program, and other center operations, to Agency of
10 Education, District Quality Standards (CVR 23-020), as applicable.

11 (c) [Repealed.]

12 § 1534. COURSE OF STUDY EVALUATION

13 (a) At least once in each period of five years, ~~and in coordination with the~~
14 ~~Vermont Advisory Council on Career Technical Education,~~ the Secretary shall
15 evaluate the effectiveness of each course of study offered by any career
16 technical center in the State. The ~~State Board~~ Secretary by rule shall prescribe
17 the method for conducting these evaluations.

18 * * *

1 Sec. 6. TRANSFER OF RULEMAKING AUTHORITY; TRANSFER OF
2 RULES

3 (a) The statutory authority to adopt rules by the State Board of Education
4 pertaining to the oversight of career and technical education adopted under
5 16 V.S.A. chapter 37 and 3 V.S.A. chapter 25 is transferred from the State
6 Board of Education to the Agency of Education.

7 (b) All rules pertaining to career and technical education adopted by the
8 State Board of Education under 3 V.S.A. chapter 25 prior to July 1, 2024 shall
9 be deemed the rules of the Agency of Education and remain in effect until
10 amended or repealed by the Agency of Education pursuant to 3 V.S.A. chapter
11 25.

12 (c) The Agency of Education shall provide notice of the transfer to the
13 Secretary of State and the Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules in
14 accordance with 3 V.S.A. § 848(d)(2).

15 * * * Postsecondary Program Articulation Agreements * * *

16 Sec. 7. 16 V.S.A. § 1594 is added to read:

17 § 1594. POSTSECONDARY PROGRAM ALIGNMENT

18 (a) In order to promote a seamless pathway from CTE to postsecondary
19 opportunities, the Vermont State Colleges Corporation shall maintain program
20 and course articulation agreements with all secondary CTE centers in the
21 following programs:

- 1 (1) manufacturing;
- 2 (2) engineering;
- 3 (3) health sciences;
- 4 (4) education; and
- 5 (5) carpentry, construction, and building trades.

6 (b) As used in this section, “articulation agreement” means an officially
7 approved agreement between a secondary CTE center and the Vermont State
8 Colleges Corporation that allows secondary CTE students to earn college
9 credit for the work they complete at a secondary CTE center.

10 * * * Position * * *

11 Sec. 8. POSITION; APPROPRIATION

12 (a) The establishment of one new permanent classified CTE Education
13 Programs Coordinator position is authorized in the Agency of Education in
14 fiscal year 2025.

15 (b) The sum of \$150,000.00 is appropriated from the General Fund to the
16 Agency of Education in fiscal year 2025 for personal services and operating
17 expenses for the CTE Education Programs Coordinator position established
18 under subsection (a) of this section.

19 * * * Effective Date * * *

20 Sec. 9. EFFECTIVE DATE

21 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.

1

2

3 (Committee vote: _____)

4

5

Senator _____

6

FOR THE COMMITTEE