

Vermont State Board of Education

**Presentation to the
Senate Education Committee
March 1, 2024**

**Comments on S.304
Jennifer Deck Samuelson, Chair
Tammy Kolbe, Vice-Chair**

Considerations and Concerns

- **Consistency**
 - 16 V.S.A. §§164(9) and 165 refer to SBE, not AOE, powers and duties
 - SBE has rulemaking authority over public schools and independent schools
 - Need to ensure alignment across EQS, independent school rules, and CTEs
- **Access to rulemaking process**
 - SBE is the eyes and ears of the public
 - Rulemaking benefits from input from the field
 - Benefits to leveraging SBE strengths in this area
- **Board expertise**
 - **Lyle Jepson**, former director of Stafford Technical Center (1999-2014)
 - **Tom Lovett**, former head of St. Johnsbury Academy (2001-2020)
- **Partnership**
 - SBE has track record of productive and collaborative relationship with AOE