
This act summary is provided for the convenience of the public and members of the General Assembly. It is intended to provide a general summary of the act and may not be exhaustive. It has been prepared by the staff of the Office of Legislative Counsel without input from members of the General Assembly. It is not intended to aid in the interpretation of legislation or to serve as a source of legislative intent.

Act No. 107 (S.173). An act relating to vocational rehabilitation and apprenticeships

Subjects: Labor; State Employees Labor Relations Act; Workers' Compensation; vocational rehabilitation; Vermont Labor Relations Board; mediator

This act requires that the Department of Labor form explaining an injured worker's rights include the worker's right to request vocational rehabilitation services in the future if the work injury affects the worker's ability to earn the worker's preinjury wage. This act creates the Vocational Rehabilitation Working Group to provide recommendations to the General Assembly on how to improve the current vocational rehabilitation system to ensure that it meets the needs of eligible injured workers in a timely and cost-effective manner. The act identifies several topics for consideration by the Working Group, including the statutorily required initial pre-screening requirement, vocational rehabilitation generally, and wage replacement benefits for injured workers. The Working Group is directed to provide a written report to the committees of jurisdiction on or before December 15, 2026. Finally, this act provides updates and technical corrections to Vermont's apprenticeship programs, including changes consistent with federal regulations and the expansion of program access to underrepresented communities.

Effective Date: July 1, 2026