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S.52

SHORT FORM

Introduced by Senator Watson

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Education; Agency of Education; school district merger; school
closure

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require the Agency of Education to develop a framework for considerations a school district is required to make when considering merging with another district, as well as require the Agency to provide advice on each consideration, including cultural considerations when the districts considering merger have different course offerings; how the community will navigate the cultural, social, and identity implications of closing a school; how a district will help prepare students for the transition if a school closes; how to help students through the transition when they are attending school in a new building; how to repurpose a school building after closure, including how to account for maintenance costs; and how to factor in geographic proximity and transportation considerations. This bill also proposes to create funding sources to assist with the repurposing of closed school buildings; for facilitation around cultural differences; and to support municipalities or districts that close a school

1 building with the operational costs of that building for a period of time after it
2 is closed, until it can be sold or repurposed.

3 An act relating to consolidation pathways

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

5 (TEXT OMITTED IN SHORT-FORM BILLS)