

1 Introduced by Committee on Commerce and Economic Development

2 Date:

3 Subject: Education; career and technical education; educational service agency

4 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to create the

5 Career Technical Education Education Service Agency (CTE ESA) to govern

6 and operate Vermont’s career technical education system, as well as make

7 changes to the career technical education funding system.

8 An act relating to the transformation of Vermont’s career technical  
9 education governance and funding systems

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

11 Sec. 1. 16 V.S.A. § 1522 is amended to read:

12 § 1522. DEFINITIONS

13 As used in this chapter:

14 (1) “Secondary CTE student” means a resident of this State, of any age,  
15 who has not completed high school and is enrolled in a secondary career  
16 technical education program.

17 (2) “Adult student” means a resident of this State, of any age, who has  
18 completed high school and who needs additional career technical education for  
19 entry into the labor force or who needs to upgrade skills to qualify for higher  
20 pay or for more dependable employment.

1           (3) “Secondary career technical education” or “secondary CTE” means  
2           an educational program leading to a high school diploma, designed to provide  
3           students with career and technical knowledge, skills, and attitudes that will  
4           prepare them for further education, enhance their employment options, or lead  
5           to an industry-recognized credential.

6           (4) “Regional CTE center” means any of the 16 regional CTE centers  
7           operating with State support on January 1, 1984, and any other centers so  
8           designated thereafter by rule of the State Board.

9           (5) “Sending district” means a school district ~~paying tuition on behalf of~~  
10          that sends a student to a school district that provides regional CTE courses  
11          center for CTE instruction.

12          (6) ~~“Receiving district” means a school district, inside or outside of this~~  
13          ~~State, receiving tuition on behalf of a student to whom it provides career~~  
14          ~~technical education. The classification of a school district as a receiving district~~  
15          ~~is not altered by reason of the participation of that district in a contract for~~  
16          ~~management of the regional CTE center under section 1543 of this title.~~

17          [Repealed.]

18          (7) ~~“Service region” means, for each regional CTE center, a region~~  
19          ~~surrounding it designated by rule of the State Board under section 1531 of this~~  
20          ~~title. The State Board may designate a service region for two or more~~

1 ~~comprehensive high schools if that region is not served by a career technical~~  
2 ~~center.~~ [Repealed.]

3 (8), (9) [Repealed.]

4 (10) “CTE ~~tuition~~ funding” means the ~~amount calculated by subtracting~~  
5 ~~from total regional technical CTE center costs all expenditures from State and~~  
6 ~~federal grants except for incentive grants, adult education grants, or other State~~  
7 ~~grants as defined by State Board rule, then dividing the result by the sum of the~~  
8 ~~actual number of full-time equivalent out-of-state students and the average of~~  
9 ~~the full-time equivalent Vermont students for the three prior years~~ statewide  
10 appropriation for the statewide CTE ESA.

11 (11) “Adult career technical education” or “adult CTE” means an  
12 educational program that is not part of a postsecondary degree program, that  
13 does not award postsecondary credit, and that provides students with career  
14 and technical knowledge, skills, and attitudes that will prepare them for further  
15 education, enhance their employment options, or lead to an industry-  
16 recognized credential.

17 (12) “Postsecondary career technical education” or “postsecondary  
18 CTE” means an educational program or course of study that awards  
19 postsecondary credit and is designed to provide students with career and  
20 technical knowledge, skills, and attitudes that will prepare them for further

1 education, enhance their employment options, or lead to an industry-  
2 recognized credential.

3 (13) “Postsecondary CTE student” means a resident of this State, of any  
4 age, who desires to enroll in, or is enrolled in, a postsecondary CTE program.

5 (14) “Comprehensive high school” means a public or independent  
6 school other than a career technical center that provides secondary career  
7 technical education approved under section 1533 of this title.

8 (15) “CTE Educational Service Agency” or “CTE ESA” means the  
9 entity appointed by the Agency of Education to oversee and ensure the  
10 provision of CTE programming at all regional CTE centers and comprehensive  
11 high schools and to receive an appropriation in support of secondary CTE for  
12 all secondary students in the State. The CTE ESA shall be a public body  
13 pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 310(6) and shall be subject to the requirements of 1  
14 V.S.A. chapter 5, subchapter 2.

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

16 Subchapter 2. ~~State Board of Education~~ Agency of Education  
17 § 1531. RESPONSIBILITY OF ~~STATE BOARD~~ THE AGENCY OF  
18 EDUCATION

19 (a) The ~~State Board~~ Agency of Education has overall responsibility for the  
20 effectiveness of career technical education. This requires the ~~Board~~ Agency to

1 collect suitable information and to take appropriate steps within its legal,  
2 financial, and personnel resources to ensure that:

3 (1) Career technical education is equally available to students and is of  
4 consistent quality in all parts of the State, including areas remote from career  
5 technical centers.

6 (2) The timing and content of career technical education is properly and  
7 flexibly coordinated with academic instruction.

8 (3) Career technical education is available to adult students, particularly  
9 in areas where unemployment is high or occupational retraining needs are  
10 great. This includes entering into contracts with postsecondary educational  
11 institutions or with any resource supplier to provide adult programs at career  
12 technical centers.

13 (4) Career technical education programs and courses of study are  
14 demonstrably useful to their graduates in obtaining employment or improving  
15 the quality of their employment.

16 (5) Career technical education programs are well coordinated with  
17 related State programs in education and training. This includes ensuring that  
18 career technical education graduates receive appropriate credit toward  
19 requirements in apprenticeship programs and professional licensing programs.

20 (b) ~~In order to provide regional career technical education services~~  
21 ~~efficiently, the State Board shall designate a service region for each career~~

1 ~~technical center. However, the Board may designate a service region for two or~~  
2 ~~more comprehensive high schools if that region is not served by a career~~  
3 ~~technical center. [Repealed.]~~

4 (c) ~~For a school district that is geographically isolated from a Vermont~~  
5 ~~career technical center, the State Board may approve a career technical center~~  
6 ~~in another state as the career technical center that district students may attend.~~  
7 ~~In this case, the school district shall receive transportation assistance pursuant~~  
8 ~~to section 1563 of this title and tuition assistance pursuant to subsection~~  
9 ~~1561(e) of this title. Any student who is a resident in the Windham Southwest~~  
10 ~~Supervisory Union and who is enrolled at public expense in the Charles H.~~  
11 ~~McCann Technical School or the Franklin County Technical School shall be~~  
12 ~~considered to be attending an approved career technical center in another state~~  
13 ~~pursuant to this subsection, and, if the student is from a school district eligible~~  
14 ~~for a merger support grant pursuant to section 4015 of this title or a small~~  
15 ~~school weight pursuant to section 4010 of this title, the student's full-time~~  
16 ~~equivalency shall be computed according to time attending the school.~~

17 [Repealed.]

18 § 1532. MINIMUM STANDARDS; MEASUREMENT OF STANDARDS

19 (a) The State Board shall adopt by rule:

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

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

7           (3) The minimum number of days of career technical instruction for  
8 each academic year.

9           (4) The minimum number of hours of instruction for each course of  
10 study within career technical education.

11           (5) The availability of remedial programs offered to students by career  
12 technical centers or by another school, agency, or program.

13           (6) Accounting procedures and standards, including methods for  
14 calculating tuition for out-of-state students receiving career technical education  
15 in regional CTE centers.

16           (7) A system of equipment inventory, amortization, and maintenance.

17           (8) Procedures and requirements for measurement of student knowledge  
18 and skill upon entry into and exit from the career technical program. The  
19 purpose of the measurement shall be to determine student achievement in  
20 relation to the standards for academic and career technical competence as  
21 adopted under subdivision (2) of this subsection. Aggregate results shall be

1 reported to the communities in the service region along with other items  
2 reported pursuant to subdivision 165(a)(2) of this title.

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

4 (1) competencies that graduates of each kind of career technical  
5 program should be able to demonstrate, including career technical  
6 competencies necessary for the student’s intended employment;

7 (2) minimum admissions competencies for entrance into each career  
8 technical course of study;

9 ~~(3) procedures by which the Secretary will review and comment on the~~  
10 ~~employment qualifications of candidates for positions at career technical~~  
11 ~~centers for whom State salary assistance will be requested; [Repealed.]~~

12 (4) requirements for ~~career technical centers~~ the CTE ESA to provide  
13 programs designed to acquaint prospective students with career technical  
14 courses of study;

15 (5) procedures by which the ~~Secretary~~ CTE ESA will review and  
16 approve use of course of study credits in career technical education to meet  
17 State graduation requirements;

18 (6) procedures, including communications with the sending school  
19 districts, to identify unique or specific circumstances relative to a student’s  
20 progress or safety.

1 § 1533. CAREER TECHNICAL CENTER EVALUATION

2 (a) At least once in each period of five years, ~~and in coordination with the~~  
3 ~~Vermont Advisory Council on Career Technical Education,~~ the Secretary shall  
4 evaluate the effectiveness of each career technical center in the State. The  
5 State Board by rule shall prescribe the method for conducting these  
6 evaluations.

7 (b) Evaluations of career technical centers shall consider at least the  
8 following areas:

- 9 (1) compliance with this chapter and the rules of the State Board;
- 10 (2) the condition and suitability of the facility and its equipment;
- 11 (3) the quality of the course of study, including faculty development  
12 policies and instruction;
- 13 (4) the overall success of the center at combining academic education,  
14 skill training, and employability trait development into its program;
- 15 (5) the overall success of the center in providing regionwide services  
16 and a flexible response to student needs, integrating its courses of study into a  
17 coherent program, and coordinating its program with postsecondary career  
18 technical education services;
- 19 (6) the satisfaction of the center’s customer groups, including graduates,  
20 sending schools, and local industry;

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

5           (c) [Repealed.]

6           § 1534. COURSE OF STUDY EVALUATION

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

12           (b) Evaluations of courses of study shall consider at least the following  
13 areas as they apply in every center offering that course:

14           (1) the content and quality of the program, including the scope of  
15 instruction and the academic and practical competencies required for  
16 completion;

17           (2) the length of the course;

18           (3) the adequacy of equipment used in the course;

19           (4) the appropriateness of the program and its content in light of later  
20 career and higher education choices made by recent graduates;

1 (5) the usefulness of the program to recent graduates;

2 (6) coordination with other State programs, especially licensing, job  
3 training, and apprenticeship programs;

4 (7) possibilities for decentralization of the program.

5 (c) [Repealed.]

6 Sec. 3. 16 V.S.A. chapter 37, subchapter 3 is amended to read:

7 Subchapter 3. Local Career Technical Education Programs

8 § 1540. RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CTE EDUCATION SERVICE

9 AGENCY

10 (a) The CTE ESA shall have responsibility for providing secondary and  
11 adult career technical education programming in regional CTE centers and in  
12 comprehensive high schools.

13 (b) The CTE ESA shall be managed by a governing board as outlined in  
14 section 1542 of this title.

15 (c) The CTE ESA shall:

16 (1) annually propose the budget for operation of the CTE ESA and its  
17 programs;

18 (2) ensure regional CTE centers offer programs designed to acquaint  
19 prospective students with CTE programs that do not require an enrollment  
20 commitment;

1           (3) after giving due consideration to efficient and cost-effective use of  
2           the center, establish fees for building and equipment use;

3           (4) establish a CTE tuition rate for out-of-state students attending  
4           Vermont CTE centers;

5           (5) make the center’s facilities and equipment available for providing  
6           CTE education to adults;

7           (6) use and maintain all facilities designed and constructed for career  
8           technical education in a manner consistent with that purpose, except when  
9           those facilities are not needed for CTE and the Secretary consents; and

10          (7) arrange with school districts to provide professional development for  
11          coordinated CTE exposure curriculum in middle and high school.

12          § 1541. RESPONSIBILITY OF LOCAL SCHOOL BOARDS THAT  
13                  ~~OPERATE~~ HOUSE CAREER TECHNICAL CENTERS

14          (a) A school board that ~~operates~~ houses a CTE center within its district  
15          facilities has responsibility for providing access to the CTE ESA to provide  
16          secondary and adult career technical education services ~~within its service~~  
17          region.

18          (b) ~~A school board that operates a CTE center shall establish a regional~~  
19          advisory board. It shall give due regard to the policy and financial  
20          recommendations of its regional advisory board. When the school board  
21          rejects a written recommendation of a regional advisory board, or fails to adopt

1 ~~a recommendation after 30 days, it shall notify the advisory board and the~~  
2 ~~Secretary in writing, stating its reasons. If the State Board designates a service~~  
3 ~~region for two or more comprehensive high schools, the boards of the high~~  
4 ~~schools shall establish a joint regional advisory board. [Repealed.]~~

5 (c) ~~In consultation with its regional advisory board, a~~ A school board that  
6 ~~operates~~ houses a regional CTE center within its district facilities shall:

7 (1) ~~annually set the budget for operation of the center~~ enter into an  
8 operating agreement with the CTE ESA related to the CTE center's use of  
9 space, technology, staffing, utilities hared spaces, staff, student, and visitor  
10 parking, and other aspects of facility usage; and

11 (2) ~~establish the secondary and adult curriculum of the regional center,~~  
12 ~~including courses of study offered; permit the use of and maintain all facilities~~  
13 designed and constructed for career technical education in a manner consistent  
14 with that purpose, except when those facilities are not needed for CTE and the  
15 Secretary consents.

16 (3) ~~whenever advantageous to the service region, provide for the~~  
17 ~~decentralization of its career technical programs, including the creation of~~  
18 ~~rotating and satellite programs; [Repealed.]~~

19 (4) ~~employ and, as need requires, dismiss an assistant director for adult~~  
20 ~~education and, subject to section 243 of this title, a director of career technical~~  
21 ~~education; [Repealed.]~~

1           ~~(5) establish admission and program completion policies; [Repealed.]~~

2           ~~(6) periodically evaluate the success of the center in serving all parts of~~  
3 ~~its service area and in offering useful adult training and education programs;~~  
4 ~~[Repealed.]~~

5           ~~(7) periodically evaluate the quality of each course of study offered by~~  
6 ~~the center; [Repealed.]~~

7           ~~(8) coordinate use of the center with the Vermont State Colleges; with~~  
8 ~~other State programs, including licensing, job training, and apprenticeship~~  
9 ~~programs; and other approved institutions, for the provision of postsecondary~~  
10 ~~career technical education programs, and charge fees not exceeding actual~~  
11 ~~direct and indirect costs of the use of the center; [Repealed.]~~

12           ~~(9) offer programs designed to acquaint prospective students with CTE~~  
13 ~~programs that do not require an enrollment commitment; and [Repealed.]~~

14           ~~(10) after giving due consideration to efficient and cost-effective use of~~  
15 ~~the center, establish fees for building and equipment use. [Repealed.]~~

16           ~~(d) A school board that operates a CTE center:~~

17           ~~(1) shall establish a CTE tuition;~~

18           ~~(2) shall make the center's facilities and equipment available for~~  
19 ~~providing CTE education to adults; and~~

20           ~~(3) shall use and maintain all facilities designed and constructed for~~  
21 ~~career technical education in a manner consistent with that purpose, except~~

1 ~~when those facilities are not needed for CTE and the Secretary consents.~~

2 [Repealed.]

3 § 1541a. RESPONSIBILITY OF ~~LOCAL BOARDS IN SENDING~~ SCHOOL  
4 DISTRICTS

5 (a) A school ~~board of a sending~~ district that ~~offers~~ operates public  
6 education in grade 10, 11, or 12 shall:

7 (1) Provide students enrolled in grades 10, 11, and 12 with a genuine  
8 opportunity to participate fully and to benefit from career technical education.

9 (2) ~~Provide~~ Coordinate transportation with the CTE ESA for students  
10 enrolled in programs at career technical centers ~~transportation~~ between its high  
11 school building and the career technical center or centers ~~in its designated~~  
12 service region or regions of attendance.

13 (3) ~~If the career technical center for the region does not offer a course of~~  
14 ~~study desired by a student, pay tuition on behalf of that student who applies~~  
15 ~~and is accepted to another career technical center that does offer such a course~~  
16 ~~of study. The district of residence is not responsible for providing~~  
17 ~~transportation for a student attending a career technical center under this~~  
18 ~~subdivision~~ The CTE ESA will work with students when a course of study is  
19 not offered at their local CTE center to facilitate attendance at a center where  
20 the course of study is offered. Where possible, transportation shall be  
21 provided.

1 (b) A school district that maintains a secondary school shall provide the  
2 names and addresses of enrolled students to the CTE ~~center for its region~~ ESA  
3 for the limited purpose of the local CTE center or regional centers providing  
4 information to students and their parents about CTE center offerings. An  
5 approved independent school shall provide to the CTE center the names and  
6 addresses of enrolled secondary students for whom it receives publicly funded  
7 tuition dollars.

8 (c) A school district that operates grades six through eight shall coordinate  
9 with the CTE ESA to offer curriculum or coursework designed to inform  
10 students about CTE opportunities and age-appropriate career navigation and  
11 pathway planning.

12 § 1542. ~~REGIONAL ADVISORY~~ CTE ESA BOARD

13 ~~(a) Each regional advisory~~ The CTE ESA governing board shall consist of:  
14 ~~(1) one member from each public high school in the center's service~~  
15 ~~region, elected by and from among the members of that high school board for a~~  
16 ~~term determined by that high school board; and~~  
17 ~~(2) the superintendent or his or her designee of each supervisory union~~  
18 ~~within the center's service region; and~~  
19 ~~(3) one member elected for a term of three years by and from among the~~  
20 ~~school board of each sending district in the center's service region that does~~  
21 ~~not have a public high school represented on the advisory board under~~

1 ~~subdivision (1) of this section; except that, if there are more than three such~~  
2 ~~districts in the center's service area, the advisory board shall select three school~~  
3 ~~boards to represent the interests of all such districts, shall rotate its selections~~  
4 ~~among the districts, and shall stagger the expiration of initial terms; and~~

5 ~~(4) one member of the board of each independent comprehensive high~~  
6 ~~school within a service region, elected by the members of that board for a term~~  
7 ~~determined by that board; and~~

8 ~~(5) once constituted, the regional advisory board shall elect three~~  
9 ~~additional members for terms of three years to represent the interests of~~  
10 ~~employers or employees, provided that no two terms shall expire in any year~~  
11 ~~five members appointed by the Governor. Members shall represent CTE~~  
12 ~~administrators, the interests of employers and employees, and school board~~  
13 ~~members.~~

14 ~~(b) A regional advisory board, with the consent of the State Workforce~~  
15 ~~Development Board, may delegate its responsibilities to the grantee that~~  
16 ~~performs workforce development activities in the region pursuant to 10 V.S.A.~~  
17 ~~§ 542. In this case, the grantee shall become the regional advisory board unless~~  
18 ~~and until the school board that operates the career technical center requests that~~  
19 ~~the regional advisory board be reconstituted pursuant to subsection (a) of this~~  
20 ~~section. [Repealed.]~~

21 \* \* \*

1 § 1544. CAREER TECHNICAL COURSES IN OTHER SCHOOLS

2 Subject to any direction as to courses, teachers, or equipment that the State  
3 Board may prescribe by rule, high schools may include within their courses of  
4 study career exploration, pretechnical, or career technical courses, ~~or both~~.

5 Before establishing such a program, a middle or high school shall consult with  
6 the ~~regional advisory board for its CTE service region~~ ESA. The CTE ESA  
7 shall provide support and technical assistance to other schools providing career  
8 exploration, pretechnical, or career technical courses.

9 \* \* \*

10 § 1546. ~~COMPREHENSIVE HIGH SCHOOLS~~

11 ~~(a) In the sections referenced in this section, when applied to an~~  
12 ~~independent comprehensive high school, the term “school board” or “school~~  
13 ~~district” means “the school’s board of trustees.”~~

14 ~~(b) A comprehensive high school shall charge and receive tuition pursuant~~  
15 ~~to section 824 of this title. A comprehensive high school shall be a career~~  
16 ~~technical center for the purposes of receiving funding for grants per full time~~  
17 ~~equivalent student under section 1561 of this title, for tryout classes under~~  
18 ~~section 1562 of this title, and for reporting requirements under section 1568 of~~  
19 ~~this title. Funds received under this section shall be used for support of career~~  
20 ~~technical education programs within the comprehensive high school.~~

1       ~~(e) Two or more comprehensive high schools for which the State Board has~~  
2       ~~designated a service region shall be a career technical center for the purposes~~  
3       ~~of accountability to the State Board under subchapter 2 of this chapter,~~  
4       ~~responsibilities of the career technical center under subchapter 3 of this~~  
5       ~~chapter, and receiving State financial assistance under subchapter 5 of this~~  
6       ~~chapter, excluding the general State support grant under subsection 1561(b) of~~  
7       ~~this title. The regional advisory board shall determine how funds received~~  
8       ~~under subchapter 5 shall be distributed. A comprehensive high school~~  
9       ~~aggrieved by a decision of the regional advisory board may appeal to the~~  
10       ~~Secretary who, after opportunity for hearing, may affirm or modify the~~  
11       ~~decision. [Repealed.]~~

12       Sec. 4. 16 V.S.A. chapter 37, subchapter 4 is amended to read:

13                               Subchapter 4. Eligibility and Tuition

14       § 1551. SECONDARY STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

15       (a) A secondary student shall ~~be enrolled in~~ attend a program of part-time  
16       or full-time career technical education at a career technical center if ~~he or she~~  
17       the student:

18               (1) applies for the program; and

19               (2) is accepted into the program by the career technical center.

20       (b) A secondary student who is eligible to ~~enroll in~~ attend a career technical  
21       center, ~~but who resides in a sending school district, and who so applies, shall~~

1 ~~be enrolled for academic education in the high school associated with the~~  
2 ~~career technical center if:~~

3 ~~(1) the sending school district operates a high school but does not~~  
4 ~~provide daily transportation at its expense to and from the career technical~~  
5 ~~center; or~~

6 ~~(2) the sending school district does not operate a high school~~ shall  
7 continue to be enrolled for academic education in the student's high school.

8 (c) A secondary student who enrolls in a career technical center may enroll  
9 part-time in any school to which ~~he or she~~ the student would otherwise be  
10 entitled to enroll for full-time attendance.

11 § 1551a. SECONDARY STUDENTS NOT ENROLLED IN A HIGH  
12 SCHOOL

13 (a) Enrollment in a high school shall not be a precondition for enrollment  
14 in a career technical center for a student of any age without a diploma. For the  
15 purposes of this section, a general education development credential shall not  
16 be considered a high school diploma. Such a student who applies for and for  
17 whom space is available shall be enrolled at no cost. The CTE ESA may  
18 require the student to meet admissions criteria set forth in the admissions  
19 policies of the CTE ESA and any program-specific requirements.

20 ~~(b) A school district may establish reasonable procedures to require its~~  
21 ~~resident students to discuss educational opportunities within career technical~~

1 ~~centers or the high school. Procedures shall not interfere with enrollment in a~~  
2 ~~career technical center. If a student without a diploma who is not enrolled in a~~  
3 ~~high school enrolls in a career technical center, within 10 days of enrollment,~~  
4 ~~the career technical center shall notify the school district of residence of the~~  
5 ~~enrollment. [Repealed.]~~

6 § 1552. OUT OF STATE SECONDARY STUDENT TUITION

7 (a) Each career technical center shall establish a tuition charge for  
8 secondary career technical education for students enrolled from another state.  
9 The amount shall reflect the actual cost, ~~as defined by rule of the State Board,~~  
10 of attendance in the career technical courses offered by the center as  
11 determined by the CTE ESA. The tuition charge shall be reduced  
12 proportionally for students enrolled in a part-time program.

13 (b) Secondary students are eligible for tuition assistance in career technical  
14 education provided in another state when the State Board determines that such  
15 career technical education can properly serve the needs of Vermont students.

16 (c) ~~For students from a school district within Vermont, funds received~~  
17 ~~under subsection 1561(e) of this title shall be subtracted when calculating the~~  
18 ~~tuition charge. For students who are not Vermont residents, funds received~~  
19 ~~under subsections 1561(b) and (c) of this title shall not be subtracted when~~  
20 ~~calculating the tuition charge. [Repealed.]~~

1       (d) ~~The tuition charged to a school district within Vermont shall be based~~  
2 ~~on the average of the district's three prior years' full-time equivalent student~~  
3 ~~enrollment in the career technical center. [Repealed.]~~

4       § 1553. ADULT STUDENTS

5       An adult student who is academically qualified for career technical  
6 education, who applies and for whom space is available, shall be enrolled in a  
7 program of secondary career technical education ~~at a career technical center at~~  
8 a rate ~~not to exceed 40 percent of the announced tuition~~ established by the CTE  
9 ESA and approved by the State Workforce Development Board.

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

11                               Subchapter 5. State Financial Assistance

12       § 1561. ~~TUITION REDUCTION~~ STATE FUNDING FOR CTE

13       (a) ~~In this section:~~

14               (1) ~~“Student” means a Vermont secondary student without a diploma~~  
15 ~~regardless of age and regardless of whether the student is enrolled in a high~~  
16 ~~school in Vermont.~~

17               (2) ~~“Full-time equivalent student” means the average of a Vermont~~  
18 ~~school district's three prior years' full-time equivalent enrollment of students~~  
19 ~~in the career technical center~~ Annually, the Governor shall include in the  
20 Governor's recommended budget an amount projected by the CTE ESA to be  
21 necessary for the support of CTE in Vermont. The amount shall be not less

1 than CTE center expenditures for fiscal year 2026 increased by the annual  
2 change in the National Income and Product Accounts (NIPA) implicit price  
3 deflator for state and local government consumption expenditures and gross  
4 investment as reported by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of  
5 Economic Analysis.

6 ~~(b) On behalf of a sending school district within Vermont, a career~~  
7 ~~technical center shall receive from the Education Fund for each full-time~~  
8 ~~equivalent student from the district 87 percent of the base education amount,~~  
9 ~~and an equivalent amount shall be subtracted from the amount due to the~~  
10 ~~sending district under section 4011 of this title. The amount sent to the career~~  
11 ~~technical center and subtracted from the sending district shall be considered a~~  
12 ~~revenue and an expenditure of the district and shall be reported as such in~~  
13 ~~appropriate accounts and in the district's annual budget. [Repealed.]~~

14 ~~(c) Annually, the General Assembly shall appropriate funds to pay for a~~  
15 ~~supplemental assistance grant per full-time equivalent student. The amount of~~  
16 ~~the grant shall be equal to 35 percent of the base education amount for that~~  
17 ~~year. [Repealed.]~~

18 ~~(d) In any year following a year in which fall semester full-time equivalent~~  
19 ~~enrollment of students at a career technical center increased by 20 percent or~~  
20 ~~more over the previous fall semester, in addition to other aid, the career~~  
21 ~~technical center shall receive an extra supplemental assistance grant equal to~~

1 ~~two-thirds of the 35 percent of the base education amount for that year,~~  
2 ~~multiplied by the actual full-time equivalent enrollment increase. The next~~  
3 ~~year, if the increase in fall semester full-time equivalent enrollment is less than~~  
4 ~~20 percent, in addition to other aid, the career technical center shall receive an~~  
5 ~~extra supplemental assistance grant equal to one-third of the 35 percent of the~~  
6 ~~base education amount for the year, multiplied by the actual full-time~~  
7 ~~equivalent increase of the previous fall semester. [Repealed.]~~

8 § 1562. ~~TRYOUT CLASSES~~

9 ~~From the monies annually available for use in career technical education,~~  
10 ~~the State Board may reimburse part of the program cost attributable to~~  
11 ~~programs designed to assist students in deciding whether to enroll in career~~  
12 ~~technical courses. As a condition of such assistance, the program shall~~  
13 ~~demonstrate that it has taken steps to encourage each student to consider~~  
14 ~~enrolling in courses not traditional for that student's gender. [Repealed.]~~

15 § 1563. ~~TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE~~

16 ~~(a) It is the policy of the General Assembly to encourage Vermont students~~  
17 ~~to enroll in career technical education courses. In furtherance of that policy,~~  
18 ~~transportation assistance is provided for in this section to facilitate the~~  
19 ~~enrollment of Vermont students in career technical education programs.~~

20 ~~(b) Transportation assistance shall be paid from the Education Fund to~~  
21 ~~school districts that provide transportation to and from career technical~~

1 ~~education programs, regardless of whether the program is offered in a career~~  
2 ~~technical center in the district's designated service region or regions or is~~  
3 ~~offered within the career technical center region at a location other than at a~~  
4 ~~career technical center. Assistance shall be \$1.50 per mile for actual number~~  
5 ~~of miles traveled, in 1998 dollars adjusted annually by the annual price index~~  
6 ~~for state and local government purchases of goods and services. Payments~~  
7 ~~shall be made on or before December 10 and June 10. Requests submitted on~~  
8 ~~or following May 15 shall be reimbursed in the next payment.~~

9 ~~(c) The State Board may adopt rules necessary to implement this section.~~

10 [Repealed.]

11 \* \* \*

12 § 1565. SALARY ASSISTANCE

13 ~~(a) The State Board shall reimburse a school district operating a career~~  
14 ~~technical center for a portion of its cost in paying the salary of the following~~  
15 ~~persons:~~

16 ~~(1) the director of career technical education;~~

17 ~~(2) a person whose principal duty is to provide guidance services for~~  
18 ~~career technical students;~~

19 ~~(3) a person whose principal duty is to find job training opportunities for~~  
20 ~~students during the time they are enrolled at the career technical center;~~

1           ~~(4) an assistant director for adult education;~~

2           ~~(5) an assistant director of career technical education, if the career~~  
3           ~~technical center has full time equivalent enrollment of at least 150 and the~~  
4           ~~sending school population is at least 30 percent of the career technical center's~~  
5           ~~total full time equivalent enrollment.~~

6           ~~(b) Assistance under this section shall be determined by a formula and~~  
7           ~~standards established by rule of the State Board. The formula and those~~  
8           ~~standards:~~

9           ~~(1) Shall provide different levels of support for different positions as~~  
10          ~~follows:~~

11           ~~(A) Directors and guidance coordinators' salary assistance shall be~~  
12          ~~50 percent of the State average salary and benefits for each position, or 50~~  
13          ~~percent of the actual salary and benefits for each individual, whichever is less.~~

14           ~~(B) Assistant directors, except for assistant directors for adult~~  
15          ~~education, if the district is eligible, and co-op teachers' salary assistance shall~~  
16          ~~be 35 percent of the State average salary and benefits for each position or 35~~  
17          ~~percent of the actual salary and benefits for each individual, whichever is less.~~

18           ~~(C) Salary assistance for assistant directors for adult education shall~~  
19          ~~be up to 50 percent of the State average salary and benefits paid to full time~~  
20          ~~assistant directors for adult education; salary assistance shall be prorated for~~  
21          ~~part time assistant directors. Salary assistance under this subdivision (1)(C)~~

1 shall not be paid from the Education Fund to the extent that the obligation is  
2 not fully funded from the General Fund. State General Fund assistance shall  
3 be divided so that each district employing an assistant director receives the  
4 same base amount of State salary support. The base support shall be pro-rated  
5 for part-time assistant directors. Payment under this subsection (b) does not  
6 preclude a district from using other State and federal grants to supplement the  
7 actual salaries and benefits of assistant directors for adult education.

8 ~~(2) Shall require as a condition of assistance that the director:~~

9 ~~(A) Is responsible for the overall administration of all career~~  
10 ~~technical programs.~~

11 ~~(B) Reports administratively to the superintendent of schools for the~~  
12 ~~supervisory union of the school district that operates the center, or to a~~  
13 ~~headmaster if the career technical center is not managed by a school board.~~

14 [Repealed.]

15 \* \* \*

16 Sec. 6. REGIONAL CAREER TECHNICAL CENTER SCHOOL

17 DISTRICTS; REPEAL

18 16 V.S.A. chapter 37, subchapter 5a (regional career technical center school  
19 districts) is repealed.

20 Sec. 7. 16 V.S.A. chapter 37, subchapter 6 is amended to read:

21 Subchapter 6. Postsecondary Career Technical Education

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\* \* \*

§ 1592. POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES

With respect to the provision of postsecondary career technical education programs, in addition to those powers and responsibilities set forth in chapter 72 of this title, the Vermont State Colleges Board of Trustees shall:

(1) provide on a statewide basis, subject to the payment of fees by enrolled students, postsecondary career technical education programs and establish policies and determine curriculum for the provision of such education;

(2) coordinate such programs with the CTE ESA and its secondary regional career technical education centers and, to the maximum extent possible, contract with such centers for the use of the center’s facilities;

(3) coordinate such programs with other employment and training programs such as those offered by the Department of Employment and Training, the Department of Labor, the Department for Children and Families, the Agency of Commerce and Community Development, independent colleges, and the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation; and

(4) possess all other necessary and implied powers to carry out such responsibilities.

1 § 1593. SECONDARY STUDENTS IN POSTSECONDARY CAREER  
2 TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

3 A secondary career technical student may be enrolled in postsecondary  
4 career technical education courses at the expense of the ~~student's school~~  
5 ~~district of residence~~ CTE ESA if the enrollment is accepted by the  
6 postsecondary career institution and approved by the district of residence as  
7 being in the best interests of the student and if the enrollment is approved for  
8 credit toward high school graduation requirements. The school board  
9 awarding graduation credits shall consider the recommendation of the ~~regional~~  
10 ~~advisory~~ CTE ESA governance board, ~~regional technical center school district~~  
11 ~~board~~, or any other authorized alternate governing board and shall provide an  
12 opportunity for the secondary student also to receive postsecondary credit.

13 Sec. 8. 16 V.S.A. § 563 is amended to read:

14 § 563. POWERS OF SCHOOL BOARDS; FORM OF VOTE

15 The school board of a school district, in addition to other duties and  
16 authority specifically assigned by law:

17 \* \* \*

18 (11)(A) Shall prepare and distribute annually a proposed budget for the  
19 next school year according to such major categories as may from time to time  
20 be prescribed by the Secretary.

1 (B) [Repealed.]

2 (C) At a school district’s annual or special meeting, the electorate  
3 may vote to provide notice of availability of the school budget required by this  
4 subdivision to the electorate in lieu of distributing the budget. If the electorate  
5 of the school district votes to provide notice of availability, it must specify how  
6 notice of availability shall be given, and such notice of availability shall be  
7 provided to the electorate at least 30 days before the district’s annual meeting.  
8 The proposed budget shall be prepared and distributed at least ~~ten~~ 10 days  
9 before a sum of money is voted on by the electorate. Any proposed budget  
10 shall show the following information in a format prescribed by the Secretary:

11 (i) all revenues from all sources, and expenses, including as  
12 separate items any assessment for a supervisory union of which it is a member  
13 ~~and any tuition to be paid to a career technical center~~; and including the report  
14 required in subdivision 242(4)(D) of this title itemizing the component costs of  
15 the supervisory union assessment;

16 \* \* \*

17 Sec. 9. CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION FUNDING; FOUNDATION  
18 FORMULA; JOINT FISCAL OFFICE; REPORT

19 In addition to the study required by 2025 Acts and Resolves No. 73, Sec.  
20 45a, the Joint Fiscal Office shall report the amount of funding dedicated to  
21 career technical education (CTE) within the foundation formula. It is the intent

1 of the General Assembly to avoid the duplication of funding for CTE by  
2 directly appropriating CTE funding to the CTE ESA and adjusting the  
3 education finance system accordingly.

4 Sec. 10. STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION; RULEMAKING

5 On or before September 18, 2026, the Agency of Education shall submit a  
6 proposed draft rule to the State Board of Education to update Agency of  
7 Education, Career and Technical Education State Board Regulations (CVR 22-  
8 000-007). The State Board shall consider the Agency’s proposed draft rules  
9 and shall file proposed rules with the Interagency Committee on  
10 Administrative Rules on or before November 27, 2026.

11 Sec. 11. EFFECTIVE DATE

12 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2027, with the CTE ESA taking over  
13 operations of CTE delivery on July 1, 2028.