

1 TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

2 The Committee on Commerce and Economic Development to which was
3 referred Senate Bill No. 313 entitled “An act relating to transforming
4 Vermont’s career technical education system” respectfully reports that it has
5 considered the same and recommends that the House propose to the Senate that
6 the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in
7 lieu thereof the following:

8 Sec. 1. CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION; RULEMAKING

9 (a) The State Board of Education shall engage in a comprehensive update
10 to Agency of Education, Career and Technical Education State Board
11 Regulations (CVR 22-000-007) (CTE rules) in accordance with 3 V.S.A.
12 chapter 25. In collaboration with the Vermont Association of Career and
13 Technical Directors and the Vermont Superintendents Association, the Board
14 shall update the CTE rules to address the following to reflect the current career
15 technical education system as it exists on July 1, 2026:

16 (1) updates to definitions, including definitions for “CTE programs,”
17 “credentials,” “embedded academics,” and “satellite models”;

18 (2) credit standards and competency-based pathways;

19 (3) work-based learning sequencing aligned with Occupational Safety
20 and Health Administration standards and federal hazard orders;

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(c) The State Board shall review and update the rules and procedures adopted pursuant to this section not less than every five years.

Sec. 3. 16 V.S.A. § 1522 is amended to read:

§ 1522. DEFINITIONS

As used in this chapter:

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(14) “Comprehensive high school” means a public or independent school other than a career technical center that ~~provides secondary career technical education approved under section 1533 of this title~~ fully integrates the provision of career technical education with the provision of general education in one school building or on one school campus, with a single source of funding for both CTE education and general education.

Sec. 4. LEGACY COMPREHENSIVE HIGH SCHOOLS

A public school other than a career technical center that provided secondary career technical education approved under 16 V.S.A. § 1533 as of June 30, 2026, and therefore qualified as a comprehensive high school under the definition of comprehensive high school in effect on June 30, 2026, under 16 V.S.A. § 1522(14), shall continue to be considered a comprehensive high school until further action by the General Assembly.

1 Sec. 5. 16 V.S.A. § 1545 is amended to read:

2 § 1545. CREDITS AND GRADES EARNED

3 (a) Grades earned in a course offered within a CTE program approved by
4 the State Board shall not be altered by any public school or approved or
5 recognized independent school in Vermont and shall be applied by the school
6 toward any State graduation requirements in accordance with rules adopted by
7 the State Board. Any State Board rules regarding earning of credits shall allow
8 flexibility with respect to the integration of CTE education and other academic
9 courses.

10 (b) The credits earned for a career technical education program approved
11 by the State Board shall be honored by any public or independent school
12 within Vermont. If necessary to enable a student to participate in career
13 technical education and graduate with ~~his or her~~ the student's class, the credits
14 earned shall be applied toward any school district or independent school
15 graduation requirements exceeding the minimum number of credits required by
16 the State Board. The school board of the high school from which the student
17 wishes to graduate shall ~~make a determination as to whether the credits shall be~~
18 applied apply credits earned for a career technical education program approved
19 by the State Board toward graduation requirements. A decision of a school
20 board may be appealed to the Secretary who shall construe this section to favor
21 participation in career technical education.

1 (c) For any student attending the Vermont Academy for Science and
2 Technology pursuant to subsection 4011(e) of this title, the credits and grades
3 earned shall, upon request of the student or the student’s parent or guardian, be
4 applied toward graduation requirements at the Vermont high school that the
5 student attended prior to enrolling in the Academy.

6 Sec. 6. CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION GOVERNANCE

7 LEGISLATIVE WORKING GROUP; DRAFT LEGISLATION

8 (a) Creation. There is created the Career and Technical Education
9 Governance Legislative Working Group to study and make recommendations
10 to transform Vermont’s career and technical education governance structure.

11 (b) Membership. The Working Group shall be composed of the following
12 members:

13 (1) four current members of the House of Representatives, not all from
14 the same political party, who shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House as
15 follows:

16 (A) one member of the House Committee on Appropriations;

17 (B) one member of the House Committee on Commerce and

18 Economic Development;

19 (C) one member of the House Committee on Education; and

20 (D) one member of the House Committee on Ways and Means;

1 (2) four current members of the Senate, not all from the same political
2 party, who shall be appointed by the Committee on Committees as follows:

3 (A) one member of the Senate Committee on Appropriations;

4 (B) one member of the Senate Committee on Economic
5 Development, Housing and General Affairs;

6 (C) one member of the Senate Committee on Education; and

7 (D) one member of the Senate Committee on Finance.

8 (c) Powers and duties. The Working Group, in consultation with the
9 Agency of Education and the Vermont Association of Career and Technical
10 Directors, shall study and make recommendations regarding how to
11 incorporate Vermont’s career technical education (CTE) governance system
12 within the larger education governance system. The recommendations shall
13 include:

14 (1) a transition plan that ensures no disruption to safety, access, or
15 programming, including recommendations for whether the transition shall
16 maintain the four separate CTE governance models while working towards one
17 education governance system, or whether some other governance model or
18 models should be used during the transition to one governance system;

19 (2) a timeline to move from the current public education governance and
20 CTE systems to one system that incorporates governance for both general
21 education and CTE;

1 (3) recommendations for transition funding, including the amount and
2 source of such funding;

3 (4) recommendations for how State aid to school construction may be
4 leveraged to achieve one education governance system;

5 (5) recommendations for locations of comprehensive high schools, as
6 that term is defined in 16 V.S.A. § 1522(14); and

7 (6) recommendations for how to integrate adult career technical
8 education into the education system in a way that allows for robust
9 programmatic offerings open to all adult learners without a high school
10 diploma.

11 (d) Assistance. For purposes of scheduling meetings and preparing
12 recommended legislation, the Working Group shall have the assistance of the
13 Office of Legislative Operations and the Office of Legislative Counsel.

14 (e) Proposed legislation. On or before December 15, 2026, the Working
15 Group shall submit its findings and recommendations in the form of proposed
16 legislation to the General Assembly.

17 (f) Meetings.

18 (1) The Office of Legislative Counsel shall call the first meeting of the
19 Working Group to occur on or before August 15, 2026.

1 (2) The Working Group shall select co-chairs from among its members
2 at the first meeting, one a member of the House and the other a member of the
3 Senate.

4 (3) A majority of the membership shall constitute a quorum.

5 (4) The Working Group shall cease to exist on January 15, 2027.

6 (g) Compensation and reimbursement. For attendance at meetings during
7 adjournment of the General Assembly, a legislative member of the Working
8 Group serving in the member’s capacity as a legislator shall be entitled to per
9 diem compensation and reimbursement of expenses pursuant to 2 V.S.A. § 23
10 for not more than six meetings. These payments shall be made from monies
11 appropriated to the General Assembly.

12 Sec. 7. EFFECTIVE DATE

13 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.

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20 (Committee vote: _____)

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Representative _____

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FOR THE COMMITTEE