



Vermont Association of Career and Technical Directors

April 28, 2026

House Committee on Education
Vermont General Assembly

Re: S.313 – An act relating to transforming Vermont’s career technical education system

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Vermont Association of Career and Technical Directors (VACTED), I am writing to express our support for the direction of S.313 and to thank the Committee on Commerce and Economic Development for their work in developing the current draft.

S.313 reflects an important step toward expanding access to high-quality career and technical education (CTE) for Vermont students, while also recognizing the operational realities of program delivery.

We particularly appreciate several elements of the current draft:

- **Expanded access with appropriate guardrails** – The bill advances the goal of increasing student access to CTE while recognizing that access must be aligned with a student’s intended program of study and meet program requirements, including sequencing and safety considerations.
- **Recognition of program-specific admissions requirements** – The language appropriately preserves the ability of CTE programs to maintain readiness expectations, which are critical to student success in highly technical and safety-driven environments.
- **Transportation as a system-level responsibility** – Framing transportation as requiring a state-level funding or coordination mechanism is an important acknowledgment that access cannot be expanded without addressing structural barriers.
- **Strengthened recognition of CTE credits** – The bill reinforces that credits and proficiencies earned through approved CTE programs must be honored and applied toward graduation requirements, supporting greater consistency for students across the state.
- **Inclusion of a pre-enforcement intervention pathway** – Establishing a mechanism for early guidance and mediation will help support consistent implementation and resolve issues between centers and sending schools before they escalate to formal enforcement.

From an operational perspective, these elements are critical to ensuring that expanded access results in meaningful participation and successful outcomes for students.

As this work moves forward, the most important factor will be how key provisions are implemented through Agency of Education guidance and future rulemaking. In particular, the concept of a “viable alternative” will require clear and consistent interpretation to ensure that student placement is not only available, but appropriate, feasible, and aligned with program expectations.

We look forward to continuing to work with the Legislature, the Agency of Education, and other partners as this effort moves into its next phase, including guidance development and the work of the legislative working group.

Thank you for your continued attention to and support of Vermont’s CTE system.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Erik Remmers", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Erik Remmers

Director, Green Mountain Technology & Career Center

President, Vermont Association of Career and Technical Education Directors (VACTED)