

1 TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

2 The Committee on Finance to which was referred Senate Bill No. 220
3 entitled “An act relating to addressing education spending in fiscal years 2028
4 and 2029” respectfully reports that it has considered the same and recommends
5 that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and
6 inserting in lieu thereof the following:

7 Sec. 1. 16 V.S.A. § 4001 is amended to read:

8 § 4001. DEFINITIONS

9 As used in this chapter:

10 * * *

11 (6) “Education spending” means the amount of the school district
12 budget, any assessment for a joint contract school, career technical center
13 payments made on behalf of the district under subsection 1561(b) of this title,
14 and any amount added to pay a deficit pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 1523(b) that is
15 paid for by the school district, but excluding any portion of the school budget
16 paid for from any other sources such as endowments, parental fundraising,
17 federal funds, nongovernmental grants, or other State funds such as special
18 education funds paid under chapter 101 of this title.

19 (A) [Repealed.]

20 (B) ~~For all bonds approved by voters prior to July 1, 2024, voter-~~
21 ~~approved~~ Voter-approved bond payments toward principal and interest shall

1 not be included in “education spending” for purposes of calculating excess
2 spending pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 5401(12).

3 * * *

4 Sec. 2. 32 V.S.A. § 5401 is amended to read:

5 § 5401. DEFINITIONS

6 As used in this chapter:

7 * * *

8 (12) “Excess spending” means:

9 (A) The per pupil spending amount of the district’s education
10 spending, as defined in 16 V.S.A. § 4001(6), plus any amount required to be
11 added from a capital construction reserve fund under 24 V.S.A. § 2804(b).

12 (B) In excess of ~~118~~ 112 percent of the statewide average district per
13 pupil education spending increased by inflation, as determined by the Secretary
14 of Education on or before November 15 of each year based on the passed
15 budgets to date. As used in this subdivision (B), “increased by inflation”
16 means increasing the statewide average district per pupil education spending
17 for fiscal year 2025 by the most recent New England Economic Project
18 cumulative price index, as of November 15, for state and local government
19 purchases of goods and services, from fiscal year 2025 through the fiscal year
20 for which the amount is being determined.

1 (Committee vote: _____)

2

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Senator _____

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FOR THE COMMITTEE