

1 H.245

2 Introduced by Representatives Christie of Hartford and Cina of Burlington

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Education; Vermont Ethnic and Social Equity Standards Advisory

6 Working Group; membership; appropriations

7 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to add three
8 members to the Vermont Ethnic and Social Equity Standards Advisory
9 Working Group and to provide funding to the Working Group to facilitate its
10 mission under 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 1.

11 An act relating to increasing the membership of and providing funding to
12 the Vermont Ethnic and Social Equity Standards Advisory Working Group

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

14 Sec. 1. 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 1 is amended to read:

15 * * *

16 (c) Creation and composition. The Ethnic and Social Equity Standards
17 Advisory Working Group is established. The Working Group shall comprise
18 the following ~~20~~ 23 members:

19 (1) ~~40~~ 13 members who are members of, and represent the interests of,
20 ethnic groups and social groups, ~~two~~ four of whom shall be high school

1 students and two of whom shall be members of Vermont's Indigenous
2 community;

3 * * *

4 (d) Appointment and operation.

5 (1) The Vermont Coalition for Ethnic and Social Equity in Schools
6 (Coalition) shall appoint the ~~40~~ 13 members who represent ethnic groups and
7 social groups and the member identified under subdivision (c)(2) of this
8 section. Appointments of members to fill vacancies to these positions shall be
9 made by the Coalition.

10 * * *

11 Sec. 2. APPROPRIATIONS; VERMONT ETHNIC AND SOCIAL EQUITY
12 STANDARDS ADVISORY WORKING GROUP

13 (a) The sum of \$108,000.00 is appropriated from the General Fund to the
14 Vermont Ethnic and Social Equity Standards Advisory Working Group
15 (Working Group) for fiscal year 2022 designated for the following purposes:

16 (1) Up to \$25,000.00 to retain a national specialist to advise and assist
17 the Working Group in conducting its analysis of the State's educational
18 standards and in further refining its assessment of State Board of Education
19 rules.

20 (2) Up to \$71,500.00 to subsidize one-half of the cost for 30 Vermont
21 educators, recruited by the Working Group and the Vermont Coalition for

1 Ethnic Studies and Social Equity in Schools, to enroll in two three-credit
2 courses at the College of Ethnic Studies at San Francisco State University,
3 including the costs of accommodation and support services, meals, and travel
4 expenses.

5 (3) Up to \$10,000.00 to retain one or more experts to communicate and
6 translate complex educational language and terms of art, educational statutes,
7 and policies in a manner that is understandable to the disability community,
8 parents and caregivers, students, and to individuals for whom English is not
9 their native language.

10 (4) Up to \$1,500.00 to cover per diem and reimbursement for the three
11 members of the Working Group added under Sec. 1 of this act.

12 (5) Up to \$500.00 to pay for costs associated with utilizing technology
13 platforms and to cover other routine technology needs.

14 (b) Any unused portion of the appropriation under this section shall, as of
15 July 1, 2022, revert to the General Fund.

16 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

17 This act shall take effect on passage.