

1 S.192

2 Introduced by Senator Westman

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Education; public high school choice regions

6 Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to require that public high school
7 choice regions include grades 7 and 8.

8 An act relating to grade levels within public high school choice regions

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

10 Sec. 1. 16 V.S.A. § 1622 is amended to read:

11 § 1622. ESTABLISHMENT OF PUBLIC ~~HIGH~~ SECONDARY SCHOOL
12 CHOICE REGIONS

13 (a) This section applies to a ~~high~~ school district ~~which~~ that maintains a high
14 school.

15 (b) In this section, “high school” means a school or that portion of a school
16 ~~which~~ that offers ~~grades~~ grade 9, 10, 11, or 12; “high school district” refers to a
17 school district ~~which~~ that maintains a high school; and wherever the context so
18 indicates, “student” refers to the student if the student is not a minor, and to the
19 student’s parent or guardian if the student is a minor or under guardianship. If
20 a high school district also maintains a school that offers grades 7 and 8, then

1 “high school” means a school or that portion of a school that offers grades 7
2 and 8 as well.

3 * * *

4 (d) ~~On or before September 1, 2001, each~~ Each high school district shall
5 enter into an agreement with at least one other high school district to establish
6 a public high school choice region. A high school district may belong to more
7 than one public high school choice region. ~~On or before October 15, 2001, the~~
8 ~~commissioner of education shall assign any high school district which has not~~
9 ~~entered into an agreement by September 1 to a region or regions, and the~~
10 ~~assigned school shall comply with the terms and conditions of the agreement~~
11 ~~entered into by the districts in that region. A decision of the commissioner~~
12 ~~shall be final.~~

13 (e) ~~Beginning on July 1, 2002, a~~ A student may choose to attend any public
14 high school within the public high school choice region of residence subject to
15 the constraints of this section.

16 * * *

17 (h) ~~For school year 2002-2003, a high school board may refuse to allow~~
18 ~~more than three percent of the students enrolled or six students, whichever is~~
19 ~~fewer, to transfer from one school to another school under this section in one~~
20 ~~year. Following school year 2002-2003, a~~ A high school board may refuse to
21 allow in one year more than five percent of the students enrolled or

1 10 students, whichever is fewer, to transfer from one school to another school
2 under this section ~~in one year~~.

3 * * *

4 Sec. 2. IMPLEMENTATION

5 (a) On or before September 1, 2012, each high school district that
6 maintains a school offering grades 7 and 8 shall enter into an agreement with at
7 least one other high school district to establish a public high school choice
8 region for those grades pursuant to the terms of 16 V.S.A. § 1622 as amended
9 by Sec. 1 of this act. On or before October 15, 2012, the commissioner of
10 education shall assign any high school district offering grades 7 and 8 that has
11 not entered into an agreement by September 1 to a region or regions, and the
12 assigned school shall comply with the terms and conditions of the agreement
13 entered into by the districts in that region. A decision of the commissioner
14 shall be final.

15 (b) Beginning in academic year 2013–2014, a student who will be enrolled
16 in grade 7 or 8 may choose to attend a public high school offering those grades
17 within the public high school choice region of residence pursuant to the terms
18 of 16 V.S.A. § 1622 as amended by Sec. 1 of this act; provided, however, that
19 application for and notification of enrollment for academic year 2013–2014
20 shall be pursuant to procedures and deadlines agreed upon by the districts in a
21 choice region for that year.

1 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATES

2 (a) Sec. 1 of this act shall take effect on July 1, 2013.

3 (b) Sec. 2 and this section shall take effect on passage.