

VSBPE

Date: March 12, 2019

Item: Act 173

ITEM: Shall the VSBPE direct the Office so that the revision of the special education endorsements ensures that the special education endorsements do not serve as a barrier to satisfying statewide demands for licensed special educators before November 1 of 2019 per Act 173?

AGENCY RECOMMENDED ACTION:

That the Vermont Standards Board for Professional Educators directs the Office to begin the review and revision process for special education endorsements. The VSBPE specifically requests that during the review process participants are asked to identify current barriers of the current endorsement competencies/expectations with suggestions for revisions to address those identified barriers.

BACKGROUND:

On May 25, 2018, Governor Scott approved H.897, An act relating to enhancing the effectiveness, availability, and equity of services provided to students who require additional support. That bill became Act 173; Section 22 of that Act states:

SPECIAL EDUCATION ENDORSEMENT; APPROVAL FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION CATEGORIES (a) On or before November 1, 2019, the Vermont Standards Board for Professional Educators shall review its special educator endorsement requirements and initiate rulemaking to update its rules to ensure that these requirements do not serve as a barrier to satisfying statewide demands for licensed special educators.