

**RESOLUTION FOR SUSTAINABLE  
EDUCATION FUNDING REFORM IN VERMONT:**

- Education Funding is a Statewide priority and needs to be addressed at the State level.
- In the past 10 years the Vermont student population has declined by 10,618 (or 10%)
- In the past 10 years Vermont education spending has increased by \$300 million (or 33%)
- In the past 10 years Vermont per student spending has increased by \$6,537 (or 60%)
- In the past 10 years reliance on education property taxes has increased nearly 7%
- Nearly 70% of Education spending is funded by property taxes.

***Vermont has reached its maximum capacity to support education funding through the Statewide Education property tax.***

Vermont cannot ignore the current trends and the limitations of our property tax base. Without responsible funding system reforms, Vermont schools will be forced to undergo arbitrary and detrimental budget cuts that will affect the quality of education in Vermont. Vermont can achieve a sustainable Education future:

- Create a more diverse education funding system, sharing the costs equally between all our tax resources (income, sales, rooms & meals, and property taxes)
- Simplify the education funding system so it can be understood by the average taxpayer.

Continued reliance on the education property tax will have a material impact on local government's ability to provide vital services (police, fire, roads etc.) to residents.

***Therefore be it resolved that the Vermont cities, towns and school districts support capping total education property taxes at the FY15 level for the next two years and raise any additional revenues required to fund necessary school expense increases from some other state revenue source. The legislature should take that time to make the necessary funding reform that will sustain our education system into the future.***

(It is not the intent of this resolution to cap overall education spending).

Be it further resolved on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2014, that the City/Town/Village/School District of \_\_\_\_\_ supports the Vermont legislature as they seek out the necessary reforms to the education funding system.

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