

1 H.71

2 Introduced by Representatives Marcotte of Coventry, Batchelor of Derby,
3 Botzow of Pownal, Devereux of Mount Holly, Higley of
4 Lowell, Hubert of Milton, Kitzmiller of Montpelier, Kupersmith
5 of South Burlington, Lawrence of Lyndon, Perley of
6 Enosburgh, Strong of Albany, Till of Jericho, Townsend of
7 Randolph, Wilson of Manchester and Young of Albany

8 Referred to Committee on

9 Date:

10 Subject: Education; discipline; weapons; counseling

11 Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to permit school districts to require a
12 student who has violated a school policy regarding the possession of a deadly
13 weapon on school premises to receive counseling or to attend appropriate
14 community-based programs.

15 An act relating to counseling for students possessing weapons on school
16 property

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

1 Sec. 1. 16 V.S.A. § 563 is amended to read:

2 § 563. POWERS OF SCHOOL BOARDS; FORM OF VOTE IF BUDGET
3 EXCEEDS BENCHMARK AND DISTRICT SPENDING IS ABOVE
4 AVERAGE

5 The school board of a school district, in addition to other duties and
6 authority specifically assigned by law:

7 * * *

8 (5) Shall keep the school buildings and grounds in good repair, suitably
9 equipped, insured, and in safe and sanitary condition at all times. The school
10 board shall adopt policies to regulate or prohibit firearms or other dangerous or
11 deadly weapons on school premises and, as part of a comprehensive response
12 to violation of these policies, may require a student to receive counseling or to
13 participate in appropriate community-based programs or both. At a minimum,
14 a school board shall adopt and implement a policy at least consistent with
15 section 1166 of this title and 13 V.S.A. § 4004, relating to a student who brings
16 a firearm to or possesses a firearm at school. For purposes of this subdivision,
17 the definitions of “firearm” and “dangerous or deadly weapon” are the same as
18 in 13 V.S.A. § 4016.

19 * * *

20 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

21 This act shall take effect on passage.