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Sent: Tuesday, August 30, 2022 6:53 PM
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Cc: Simmons, Emily <Emily.Simmons@vermont.gov>; Halladay, Patrick <Patrick.Halladay@vermont.gov>; Bouchey, Heather <Heather.Bouchey@vermont.gov>
Subject: Re: Input on Recommended Updates to EQS

Hi Tammy,

Not sure if there is a newer draft of the definitions. Here is some feedback on the definitions from the earlier draft.

Dan

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- Definition 8 – College and Career Readiness (page 5)
 - the word “student’s” is in the existing definition, so it should not be underlined here
 - The words “without the need for remediation” are included in 16 V.S.A. 942 in the definition of “postsecondary readiness.” “Postsecondary readiness” means the ability to enter the workforce or to pursue postsecondary education or training without the need for remediation.”
- Definition 12 – Discrimination (page 6)
 - The committee may wish to ask for a detailed legal opinion about the implications of adopting this definition of discrimination, in conjunction with the draft rule’s prohibition against discrimination on page 3, which has a different subset of protected classifications and the nondiscrimination statement on page 4.
 - Simplified, this definition defines discrimination as any distinction, any exclusion, any classification, any restriction or any preference **on any ground** that has the effect of impairing the enjoyment of “fundamental rights and freedoms.” The term “fundamental rights and freedoms” is not defined.
- Definition 16 – Ethnic Group (page 7)
 - The term “ethnic groups” is defined in Act 1 of 2019 as “(A) nondominant racial and ethnic groups in the United States, including people who are Abenaki, people from other indigenous groups, people of African, Asian, Pacific Island, Chicanx, Latinx, or Middle Eastern descent; and (B) groups that have been historically subject to persecution or genocide.
- Definition 17 – Ethnic Studies (page 8)

- The term "ethnic studies" is defined in Act 1 as " the instruction of students in prekindergarten through grade 12 in the historical contributions and perspectives of ethnic groups and social groups."
- Definition 31 – School (page 9)
 - The statutes governing career technical education are in Title 16 Chapter 37. Flexible Pathways statutes are found in Title 16 Chapter 23 (Courses of Study) Subchapter 2 (Flexible Pathways to Secondary School Completion.) There is no definition of "career technical education centers" in Title 16.
- Definition 33 – Social Identity Group (page 9)
 - The term "social groups" is defined in Act 1 as "women and girls, people with disabilities, immigrants, refugees, and individuals who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, intersex, asexual, or nonbinary."