

Is this email not displaying correctly?  
[View it in your browser.](#)



**Vermont Home Education Network**  
**VHFN – Success at the State House**  
March 13, 2024

- 1. Senate Ed voted to use hearings after enrollment, as I suggested.** And the vote was unanimous!!! All 5 Senators agreed! So, there will be NO assessment submissions required! Remember this bill still needs to wind its way through the House.
- 2. You no longer need to email your legislators.** Let's reward them by not emailing them for now. The State House is hectic right now as crossover is Friday. This means any bills they want passed in one chamber must pass to the other chamber by Friday.
- 3. So many legislators told me they were glad to hear from their homeschooling constituents.** Thank you to all who contacted them. It made a difference as it got their attention and your reps put pressure on the Senate Ed committee.

**My agenda for the next few weeks:**

- a. I will be checking in with the Governor's office about the process for hiring a new Sec of Education.
- b. I will be checking with the State Board of Education about the process for hiring a new Sec of Education.
- c. I will keep watching the legislature as this Senate Misc Ed bill works its way through the legislative process. It next goes to the Senate Floor for debate and passage. Then it goes to the House where it could be changed.
- d. Over the summer the entire homeschooling community needs to have a conversation about parental rights and what that means to them and also what statutes and courts have to say about it. This will need to include high school and even middle school home study students. What does a right to an education look like? Who gets to say what that is? What that looks like. Vermont law does not contemplate a right to an education. Vermont law is based on compulsory attendance in a setting where learning opportunities are offered. The learning ... is up to the student.

- e. To keep working towards an updated website for VHEN. I want to offer a private message board for Vermont homeschooling families.

**Retta Dunlap**  
**802.472.5491**  
**mountainfoldvt@gmail.com**  
**[www.vhen.org](http://www.vhen.org)**