Summary and comparison of H.10 and S.247

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Vermont Economic Growth Incentive (VEGI): A program which "provides incentives from the State of Vermont to encourage prospective economic activity in Vermont that is beyond a business's organic growth."

- The quantity of incentives are "based on the revenue return generated to the State by prospective qualifying jobs, payroll creation, and capital investments."²

Vermont Economic Progress Council (VEPC): An independent board which "serves as an approval and authorization body for the Vermont Employment Growth Incentive (VEGI) program and the Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District program."

S.247: An act relating to repealing the Vermont Employment Growth Incentive (VEGI) Program sunset.

- *Repeals the January 1, 2025 sunset date for VEGI applications.

H.10: An act relating to amending the Vermont Employment Growth Incentive Program.

- Changes the Vermont Economic Progress Council
 - Vacancy notifications within 30 days of vacancy
 - Conflict of interest policy for members and witnesses
 - Modifies and expands confidentiality policy. Specifically adds "application" as a piece of confidential information.
 - Information of this nature may be requested by a "legislative member of the council."
 - Tasks VEPC with producing a report on the "purposes and performance of current State-funded economic development incentive programs."
 - In cooperation with relevant stakeholders
 - Four individuals, appointed by:
 - 1. Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund.
 - 2. Main Street Alliance of Vermont.
 - 3. Vermont Businesses for Social Responsibility.
 - 4. Public Assets Institute.

¹ Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development, "Vermont Employment Growth Incentive," State of Vermont, Accessed February 29, 2024, <u>Vermont Employment Growth Incentive | Agency of Commerce and Community Development.</u>

² Agency of Commerce and Community Development, "Vermont Employment Growth Incentive."

- Report should evaluate purposes and performance of State-funded economic development, models from other jurisdictions, effectiveness of various economic mechanisms, etc.
- Requires VEPC to annually report details on the VEGI process, including authorizations and expiration dates for businesses, data on payroll and jobs related to VEGI, etc.
- *Pushes the VEGI application acceptance sunset date to January 1st, 2026.