

1 H.646

2 Introduced by Representative Stevens of Waterbury

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Property; property held for religious, fraternal, or charitable purposes;

6 Congregational Church

7 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to repeal the
8 statutes governing the transfer of congregational church property and authorize
9 congregational churches to lawfully transfer property in the same manner as
10 other religious corporations.

11 An act relating to the transfer of property by Vermont's congregational
12 churches

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

14 Sec. 1. REPEAL

15 27 V.S.A. chapter 7, subchapter 4 (congregational churches) is repealed.

16 Sec. 2. CONSTRUCTION OF ACT; PROPERTY INTERESTS NOT

17 AFFECTED

18 This act repeals 27 V.S.A. chapter 7, subchapter 4 for the purpose of
19 removing the statutory duties and procedures governing the transfer of
20 property by congregational churches. This act shall not be construed to affect

1 a religious corporation's rights or property interest in congregational church
2 property. This act shall not supersede any act of the General Assembly that
3 vested specific rights or interests in, or established specific procedures for the
4 transfer of property by, a chartered religious corporation.

5 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

6 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.