1	H.822
2	Introduced by Representatives Keenan of St. Albans City, Fagan of
3	Rutland City, and Parent of St. Albans Town
4	Referred to Committee on
5	Date:
6	Subject: Energy; public service; natural resources; land use; siting; wind
7	turbine noise
8	Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require the
9	Public Service Board to make findings on low frequency noise and infrasound
10	when making siting determinations on wind turbines.
11	An act relating to noise from wind turbines
12	It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:
13	Sec. 1. FINDINGS
14	The General Assembly finds that:
15	(1) The Vermont Public Service Board recognizes that noise limits are
16	necessary to protect the public from adverse health effects of noise and has
17	imposed limits for audible noise from wind turbine projects.
18	(2) To date, the Public Service Board has declined to require monitoring
19	or impose conditions related to low frequency noise or infrasound when
20	issuing a certificate of public good to wind projects.

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1	(3) While the science is unsettled, studies have shown that symptoms
2	such as depression, sleeplessness, increased levels of stress, headaches,
3	annoyance, dizziness, and nausea can be linked to low frequency noise and
4	infrasound from wind turbines.
5	(4) Many Vermont residents living near wind turbines experience
6	impacts to their health and interference with the use of their property that they
7	attribute to low frequency noise and infrasound associated with wind turbines.
8	These impacts include the symptoms described in subdivision (3) of this
9	section.
10	(5) To protect the public from adverse health effects from noise and to
11	provide for the quiet enjoyment of private property, the General Assembly
12	should require the Public Service Board to make findings on impacts from low
13	frequency noise and infrasound when making siting determinations.
14	Sec. 2. 30 V.S.A. § 248(b) is amended to read:
15	(b) Before the Public Service Board issues a certificate of public good as
16	required under subsection (a) of this section, it shall find that the purchase,
17	investment, or construction:
18	* * *
19	(12) With respect to an in-state facility that generates electricity from
20	wind energy, will not result in an adverse effect on human health or the ability

1	of existing property owners to enjoy their property without interference due to
2	low frequency noise or infrasound. In this subdivision (12):
3	(A) "Infrasound" means sound below 20 hertz (Hz).
4	(B) "Low frequency noise" means sound between a frequency range
5	<u>of 20 and 200 Hz.</u>
6	Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE
7	This act shall take effect on July 1, 2016.