

**No. 90. An act relating to municipal recovery of costs of fire department response.**

(H.527)

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

Sec. 1. MUNICIPAL COST RECOVERY STUDY COMMITTEE

(a) There is created the municipal cost recovery study committee to evaluate whether or not, or to what extent, to allow municipalities to recover the costs of fire department response to emergencies and nonemergencies on class 1 and federal highways.

(b) The committee shall be comprised of eight members as follows:

(1) Two members appointed by the Vermont League of Cities and Towns, one representing a large municipality and one representing a small municipality;

(2) The commissioner of banking, insurance, securities, and health care administration or designee;

(3) The commissioner of public safety or designee;

(4) The secretary of transportation or designee;

(5) Two members appointed by the Vermont Coalition of Fire and Rescue Services, one representing volunteer firefighters and one representing career firefighters;

(6) One member appointed by the Vermont ambulance association.

(c) The committee shall study and evaluate, as it relates to the issue of allowing municipalities to recover the costs of fire department response to emergencies and nonemergencies on class 1 and federal highways:

(1) The state's public policy;

(2) The state's responsibility;

(3) The state's fiscal responsibility, including potential funding mechanisms;

(4) Costs to insurance companies;

(5) Inequities between and among municipalities;

(6) Approaches taken in other states.

(d) The department of public safety shall ensure that administrative support is provided to the committee, and the department may do so by arranging for that support to be provided by a willing municipal member of the Vermont League of Cities and Towns.

(e) By January 1, 2011 the committee shall report its recommendations in the form of proposed legislation to the general assembly.

(f) The committee may meet as often as necessary to fulfill its obligations under this section.

Approved: May 5, 2010