

1 H.231

2 Introduced by Representative Cheney of Norwich

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Natural resources and energy; electric vehicles; study; state fleet;
6 charging stations; license plates

7 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to:

8 (1) require the Commissioner of Buildings and General Services to
9 submit a report related to the installation of electric vehicle charging stations at
10 state buildings and a plan related to incorporation of electric vehicles into the
11 state fleet;

12 (2) require the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles to issue special license
13 plates for electric vehicles;

14 (3) require the Secretary of Natural Resources in consultation with other
15 state agencies to study how to promote an expansion in the use of electric
16 vehicles in Vermont; and

17 (4) repeal a prohibition on the adoption of rules under 10 V.S.A. chapter
18 23 to require the delivery or sales of electric vehicles.

19 An act relating to electric vehicles

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

1 * * * Electric Vehicles; State Buildings and State Fleet * * *

2 Sec. 1. ELECTRIC VEHICLES AND CHARGING STATIONS, STATE
3 FLEET

4 (a)(1) On or before December 15, 2013, the Commissioner of Buildings
5 and General Services (“Commissioner”), after consultation with the
6 Commissioners of Public Service and of Human Resources and any other
7 person the Commissioner considers appropriate, shall submit a written report
8 to the House and Senate Committees on Natural Resources and Energy, the
9 House Committee on Corrections and Institutions, and the Senate Committee
10 on Institutions on the installation of electric vehicle charging stations for use
11 by state employees and by members of the public visiting state office
12 buildings.

13 (2) The report shall include:

14 (A) recommendations for the installation of electric charging stations
15 at state office buildings;

16 (B) proposed policies related to the use of charging stations by state
17 employees and the visiting public and a proposed fee structure;

18 (C) identification of those recommendations requiring legislative
19 action and proposed legislation to enact those recommendations;

20 (D) any other findings or recommendations the Commissioner
21 considers relevant.

1 agency energy plan for state government. The plan shall be adopted by
2 June 30, 2005, modified as necessary, and readopted by the ~~secretary~~ Secretary
3 on or before January 15, 2010 and each sixth year subsequent to 2010. The
4 plan shall accomplish the following objectives and requirements:

5 (1) To conserve resources, save energy, and reduce pollution. The plan
6 shall devise strategies to identify to the greatest extent feasible, all
7 opportunities for conservation of resources through environmentally and
8 economically sound infrastructure development, purchasing, and fleet
9 management, and investments in renewable energy and energy efficiency
10 available to the ~~state~~ State which are cost effective on a life cycle cost basis.

11 (2) To consider state policies and operations that affect energy use.

12 (3) To devise a strategy to implement or acquire all prudent
13 opportunities and investments in as prompt and efficient a manner as possible.

14 (4) To include appropriate provisions for monitoring resource and
15 energy use and evaluating the impact of measures undertaken.

16 (5) To identify education, management, and other relevant policy
17 changes that are a part of the implementation strategy.

18 (6) To devise a strategy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The plan
19 shall include steps to encourage more efficient trip planning, to reduce the
20 average fuel consumption of the state fleet, ~~and~~ to encourage alternatives to

1 solo-commuting state employees for commuting and job-related travel, and to
2 incorporate electric vehicles into the state fleet.

3 (7) To provide, where feasible, for the installation of renewable energy
4 systems including solar energy systems, which shall include equipment or
5 building design features, or both, designed to attain the optimal mix of
6 minimizing solar gain in the summer and maximizing solar gain during the
7 winter, as part of the new construction or major renovation of any state
8 building. The cost of implementation and installation will be identified as part
9 of the budget process presented to the ~~general assembly~~ General Assembly.

10 * * *

11 * * * Special Plates for Electric Vehicles * * *

12 Sec. 3. 23 V.S.A. § 304(1) is added to read:

13 (1) Upon proper application, the Commissioner shall issue special plates to
14 registrants of electric vehicles that clearly identify them as such. The
15 Commissioner shall determine the design of the plates. The Commissioner
16 shall issue plates without additional fee at the initial registration of an electric
17 vehicle or to current registrants of electric vehicles upon receipt of the plate
18 replacement fee prescribed by section 514 of this title. For the purposes of this
19 subsection, “electric vehicle” means a vehicle that can be recharged from an
20 external source of electricity and shall include plug-in hybrid electric vehicles.

1 * * * Promoting the Use of Electric Vehicles * * *

2 Sec. 4. PROMOTING THE USE OF ELECTRIC VEHICLES

3 (a) The Secretary of Natural Resources (“Secretary”), in consultation with
4 the Secretary of Transportation, the Commissioner of Public Service, the
5 Commissioner of Taxes, and any other person the Secretary considers
6 appropriate, shall study how to promote an expansion in the use of electric
7 vehicles in Vermont consistent with achieving the State’s greenhouse gas
8 reduction goals set forth in 10 V.S.A. § 578. The study shall include
9 consideration of:

10 (1) the costs and benefits to the State of its offering incentives for the
11 purchase or sale of electric vehicles by consumers and businesses;

12 (2) the optimal siting of charging stations throughout the State and
13 whether the State should subsidize or take other steps to facilitate the
14 installation of charging stations;

15 (3) whether and how to couple electric vehicle charging stations with
16 renewable electric generation resources;

17 (4) options to fund any cost to the State arising from recommendations
18 under subdivisions (1)–(3) of this subsection;

19 (5) such other subjects the Secretary considers relevant.

20 (b) On or before December 15, 2013, the Secretary shall issue a written
21 report of the findings of the study required under subsection (a) of this section

1 and the Secretary's recommendations and the reasons for those
2 recommendations to the House and Senate Committees on Natural Resources
3 and Energy and the House and Senate Committees on Transportation. The
4 report shall include the Secretary's recommendations on how to promote an
5 expansion in the use of electric vehicles. The report also shall identify those
6 recommendations requiring legislative action and include the Secretary's
7 proposed legislation to enact those recommendations.

8 Sec. 5. 23 V.S.A. § 1043 is amended to read:

9 § 1043. OPERATION OF NEIGHBORHOOD ELECTRIC VEHICLES;

10 ~~VEHICLE SALES REQUIREMENTS~~

11 * * *

12 (d) ~~Rules adopted under the provisions of 10 V.S.A. chapter 23 (air~~
13 ~~pollution control) shall not include a requirement for delivery or sales of~~
14 ~~electric vehicles that derive all of their power from batteries. [Repealed.]~~

15 * * * Effective Dates * * *

16 Sec. 6. EFFECTIVE DATES

17 (a) This section and Secs. 1, 4, and 5 of this act shall take effect on passage.

18 (b) The remaining sections of this act shall take effect on July 1, 2013.