

1 S.221

2 Introduced by Senator Ashe

3 Referred to Committee on Finance

4 Date: January 7, 2014

5 Subject: Taxation; tax expenditures; statutory purpose

6 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to enact
7 language explaining the statutory purpose for each tax expenditure listed in the
8 biennial tax expenditure report.

9 An act relating to providing statutory purposes for tax expenditures

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

11 ~~Sec. 1. STATUTORY PURPOSES~~

12 ~~Under 2013 Acts and Resolves No. 73, Secs. 4 and 5 (Act 73), the Senate~~
13 ~~Committee on Finance is required to introduce legislation providing a statutory~~
14 ~~purpose for tax expenditures listed in the biennial tax expenditure report~~
15 ~~required by 32 V.S.A. § 312. This act will provide the statutory purposes~~
16 ~~language required by Act 73 after the language drafted by the Joint Fiscal~~
17 ~~Committee is submitted to the Senate Committee on Finance by January 15,~~
18 ~~2014.~~

19 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

20 ~~This act shall take effect on July 1, 2014.~~

**** Income, Bank Franchise, Insurance Premium, and Property Taxes ****

Sec. 1. 16 V.S.A. § 2826 is added to read:

§ 2826. STATUTORY PURPOSES

(a) The statutory purpose of the interest income from Vermont Student Assistance Corporation (VSAC) bonds exemption in section 2825 of this title is to provide VSAC sufficient access to capital by increasing the effective return on investment of its bond issuances.

(b) The statutory purpose of the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation property tax exemption in section 2825 of this title is to allow State instrumentalities that provide financial and information resources for postsecondary education and training to use all of their resources for those purposes.

Sec. 2. 30 V.S.A. § 8060(c) is added to read:

(c) The statutory purpose of the Vermont Telecommunications Authority (VTA) bonds and notes exemption in section 8074 of this title is to provide the VTA sufficient access to capital by increasing the effective return on investment of its bond issuances.

Sec. 3. 32 V.S.A. § 5813 is added to read:

§ 5813. STATUTORY PURPOSES

(a) The statutory purpose of the Vermont municipal bond income exemption in subdivision 5811(21)(A)(i) of this title is to provide the State and its municipalities sufficient access to capital by increasing the effective return on investment of State and municipal-issued bonds.

(b) The statutory purpose of the Vermont flat capital gains exclusion in subdivision 5811(21)(B)(ii) of this title is intended to increase savings and investment by making the effective tax rate on capital gains income lower than the effective tax rate on earned income while exempting a portion of the gain that may represent inflation. The 40-percent business capital gains exclusion mitigates the impact of one-time realizations in a progressive tax structure.

(c) The statutory purpose of the Vermont credit for child and dependent care in subsection 5822(d) of this title is to provide tax relief to working taxpayers who must incur dependent care expenses to stay in the workforce in the absence of pre-kindergarten programming.

(d) The statutory purpose of the Vermont credit for persons who are elderly or disabled in subsection 5822(d) of this title is to provide tax relief for seniors and persons who are disabled with little tax-exempt retirement or disability income.

(e) The statutory purpose of the Vermont investment tax credit in subsection 5822(d) of this title is to encourage Vermont business investments by lowering the effective costs of certain activities.

(f) The statutory purpose of the Vermont farm income averaging credit in subdivision 5822(c)(2) of this title is to mitigate the adverse tax consequences of fluctuating farm incomes under a progressive tax structure and to provide stability to farm operations.

(g) The statutory purpose of the Vermont business solar energy credit in subsection 5822(d) and section 5930z of this title is to provide a temporary, enhanced incentive for business solar investments located in Vermont to increase the deployment of solar electric generating facilities until the price of solar materials and installation decreases to the point it does not need State subsidization.

(h) The statutory purpose of the Vermont military pay exemption in subdivisions 5823(a)(2) and (b)(3) of this title is to provide additional compensation for military personnel in recognition of their service to Vermont and to the country.

(i) The statutory purpose of the Vermont charitable housing credit in section 5830c of this title is to assist certain affordable housing charities in attracting private investment at below-market rates by restoring some of the income forgone through a tax credit to the investor.

(j) The statutory purpose of the Vermont affordable housing credit in section 5930u of this title is to increase the capital available to certain affordable housing projects for construction or rehabilitation by attracting up front private investment.

(k) The statutory purpose of the Vermont qualified sale of a mobile home park credit in section 5828 of this title is to encourage sales of mobile home parks to a group composed of a majority of the mobile home park leaseholders, or to a nonprofit organization that represents such a group or as an alternative to closure, and, in doing so, to provide stability to the inhabitants of such mobile home parks.

(l) The statutory purpose of the Vermont higher education investment credit in section 5825a of this title is to encourage contributions to Vermont 529 plans that would not otherwise occur and to lower the cost of higher education for Vermont students and the Vermont taxpayers who financially support them.

(m) The statutory purpose of the Vermont entrepreneurs' seed capital fund credit in section 5830b of this title is to provide capital to the Seed Capital Fund, ensuring it has sufficient capital to make equity investments in Vermont businesses.

(n) The statutory purpose of the Vermont historical rehabilitation tax credit in subsection 5930cc(a) of this title is to provide incentives to improve and rehabilitate historic properties in designated downtowns and village centers.

(o) The statutory purpose of the Vermont facade improvement tax credit in subsection 5930cc(b) and sections 5930aa–5930ff of this title is to provide incentives to improve facades and rehabilitate historic properties in designated downtowns and village centers.

(p) The statutory purpose of the Vermont code improvement tax credit in subsection 5930cc(c) and sections 5930aa–5930ff of this title is to provide incentives to improve and rehabilitate historic properties in designated downtowns and village centers.

(q) The statutory purpose of the Vermont research and development tax credit in section 5930ii of this title is to encourage business investment in research and development within Vermont in order to increase research and development and to attract and retain intellectual-property-based companies.

(r) The statutory purpose of the Vermont economic advancement tax incentive credits in sections 5930a–5930k of this title is to allow Vermont to compete with other states that have offered tax savings and cash benefits as a tool to recruit and retain businesses.

(s) The statutory purpose of the Vermont downtown tax credits in sections 5930n–5930r of this title is to provide incentives to improve and rehabilitate historic properties in designated downtowns and village centers.

(t) The statutory purpose of the Vermont low-income child and dependent care credit in section 5828c of this title is to provide cash relief to lower-income working taxpayers who incur dependent care expenses in certified centers to enable them to remain in the workforce.

(u) The statutory purpose of the Vermont earned income tax credit in section 5828b of this title is to increase the after-tax income of low-income working families and individuals and to provide an incentive to work for those with little earned income and to offset the effect on these Vermonters of conventionally regressive taxes.

(v) The statutory purpose of the Vermont machinery and equipment tax credit in section 5930ll of this title is to provide an incentive to make a major, long-term capital investment in Vermont-based plant and property to ensure the continuation of in-state employment.

(w) The statutory purpose of the Vermont employment growth incentive in section 5930b of this title is to provide a cash incentive to businesses without which those businesses would not locate, expand, or retain jobs in Vermont.

(x) The statutory purpose of the Vermont Downtown and Village Center Program tax credits in section 5930cc of this title is to provide incentives to improve and rehabilitate historic properties in designated downtowns and village centers.

(y) The statutory purpose of allowing federal itemized deductions and other federal expenditures between federal adjusted gross income and federal taxable income, as listed in the report required by section 312 of this title, is to reflect Vermont's choice to use federal taxable income as a base for Vermont's State income tax.

* * * Meals and Rooms Taxes and Insurance
Premium Taxes * * *

Sec. 4. 32 V.S.A. § 9247 is added to read:

§ 9247. HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL SERVICE CORPORATIONS AND
CREDIT UNIONS

Notwithstanding 8 V.S.A. §§ 4518, 4590, and ~~30102~~ 30901, hospital service corporations, medical service corporations, and credit unions shall be subject to the meals and rooms tax. The statutory purpose of the remaining exemptions from 8 V.S.A. § 4518 is to exempt nonprofit hospitals providing health care services in order to lower the cost of welfare-increasing health services to Vermonters. The statutory purpose of the remaining exemptions from 8 V.S.A. § 4590 is to exempt nonprofit companies that provide health care insurance coverage in order to lower the cost of welfare-increasing health services to policyholders. The statutory purpose of the remaining exemptions from 8 V.S.A. § 30901 is to affirm the nonprofit, cooperative structure of credit unions.

Sec. 5. 32 V.S.A. § 9201 is added to read:

§ 9201. STATUTORY PURPOSES

(a) The statutory purpose of the Vermont grocery-type items furnished for take-out exemption in subdivision 9202(10)(D)(i) of this title is to limit the tax burden on the purchase of goods that are necessary for the health and welfare of all people in Vermont.

(b) The statutory purpose of the Vermont meals served or furnished on the premises of a nonprofit organization exemption in subdivision 9202(10)(D)(ii)(I) of this title is to allow more of the revenues generated by certain activities to be dedicated to furthering the public-service missions of the organizations.

(c) The statutory purpose of the Vermont meals provided on school premises exemption in subdivision 9202(10)(D)(ii)(II) of this title is to reduce the overall cost of education in Vermont.

(d) The statutory purpose of the Vermont or federal institutions premises where meals are provided to inmates and employees exemption in subdivision 9202(10)(D)(ii)(III) of this title is to prevent the taxation of entities that are funded by taxpayers.

(e) The statutory purpose of the Vermont meals provided at hospitals and convalescent and nursing homes exemption in subdivision 9202(10)(D)(ii)(IV) of this title is to reduce the overall costs of health care and senior care in Vermont.

(f) The statutory purpose of the Vermont meals furnished while transporting passengers for hire on train, bus, or airplane exemption in subdivision 9202(10)(D)(ii)(V) of this title is to reduce the administrative costs for transit companies providing interstate travel services.

(g) The statutory purpose of the Vermont summer camp for children exemption in subdivision 9202(10)(D)(ii)(VI) of this title is to reduce costs for summer education and outdoor activities for youth.

(h) The statutory purpose of the Vermont nonprofits at fairs, bazaars, picnics, and similar events exemption in subdivision 9202(10)(D)(ii)(VII) of this title is to allow more of the revenues generated by certain activities to be dedicated to furthering the public-service missions of the organizations.

(i) The statutory purpose of the Vermont meals furnished to an employee of a hotel or restaurant operator as remuneration for his or her employment exemption in subdivision 9202(10)(D)(ii)(VIII) of this title is to avoid the taxation of in-kind benefits.

(j) The statutory purpose of the Vermont meals provided to the elderly pursuant to the Older Americans Act exemption in subdivision 9202(10)(D)(ii)(IX) of this title is to exempt from tax government-provided meals.

(k) The statutory purpose of the Vermont meals purchased under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) exemption in subdivision 9202(10)(D)(ii)(X) of this title is to exempt from tax meals paid for with government funds.

(l) The statutory purpose of the Vermont meals served on the premises of a continuing care retirement community exemption in subdivision 9202(10)(D)(ii)(XI) is to exempt from tax meals prepared in a person's home.

(m) The statutory purpose of the Vermont time share rights exemption in subdivision 9202(8) of this title is to avoid double taxation on holdings that are subject to property taxes.

(n) The statutory purpose of the Vermont student housing exemption in subdivision 9202(8) of this title is to reduce the overall costs of education in Vermont.

(o) The statutory purpose of the Vermont permanent residents exemption in subdivisions 9202(6) and (7) of this title is to treat long-term hotel guests as permanent residents of the State for purposes of administering the rooms tax.

(p) The statutory purpose of the Vermont rooms furnished to an employee of a hotel or restaurant operator as remuneration for his or her employment exemption in subdivision 9202(6) of this title is to exclude the taxation of in-kind benefits.

(q) The statutory purpose of the summer camp for children exemption in subdivision 9202(6) of this title is to reduce costs for summer education and outdoor activities for youth.

(r) The statutory purpose of the Vermont State or United States operated establishment room charges exemption in subdivision 9202(3)(B) of this title is to abide by the requirement that states will not tax the federal government and to avoid the instance of the State taxing itself.

(s) The statutory purpose of the Vermont rooms on the premises of a nonprofit exemption in subdivision 9202(3)(C) of this title is to allow more of the revenues generated by certain activities to be dedicated to furthering the public-service missions of the organizations.

(t) The statutory purpose of the Vermont rooms on the premises of a continuing care retirement community exemption in subdivision 9202(3)(D) of this title is to exclude rooms that are a person's residence.

* * * Sales Taxes * * *

Sec. 6. 32 V.S.A. § 9706 is added to read:

§ 9706. STATUTORY PURPOSES

(a) The statutory purpose of the Vermont medical products exemption in subdivision 9741(2) of this title is to lower the cost of medical products in order to support the health and welfare of Vermont residents.

(b) The statutory purpose of the Vermont agricultural inputs exemption in subdivision 9741(3) of this title is to lessen the costs for the agricultural industry, and to avoid taxing inputs in favor of taxing the end product, thus avoiding double taxation.

(c) The statutory purpose of the Vermont veterinary supplies exemption in subdivision 9741(3) of this title is to lessen the cost of veterinary services associated with productive animals to the agricultural industry.

(d) The statutory purpose of the Vermont nonbusiness, casual sales exemption in subdivision 9741(4) of this title is to prevent the occasional sale and resale of personal property by individuals not engaged as merchants from being subjected to the tax.

(e) The statutory purpose of the Vermont fuels for railroads and boats exemption in subdivision 9741(7) of this title is to avoid the taxation of fuels for the types of transportation for which public expenditure on infrastructure is unnecessary.

(f) The statutory purpose of the Vermont sales of food exemption in subdivision 9741(13) of this title is to limit the taxes on the purchase of goods that are necessary for the health and welfare of all people in Vermont.

(g) The statutory purpose of the Vermont manufacturers' material and equipment exemption in subdivision 9741(14) of this title is to avoid tax pyramiding on goods and encourage investments in equipment by manufacturing entities.

(h) The statutory purpose of the Vermont newspapers exemption in subdivision 9741(15) of this title is to reduce the financial costs of building an informed citizenry.

(i) The statutory purpose of the Vermont packaging and shipping materials exemption in subdivision 9741(16) of this title is to prevent tax pyramiding by excluding inputs into business production and distribution.

(j) The statutory purpose of the Vermont rented furniture for residential use exemption in subdivision 9741(17) of this title is to limit sales taxes on items that are not being sold in order to avoid double taxation.

(k) The statutory purpose of the Vermont municipal, State, and federal recreation facilities admission exemption in subdivision 9741(18) of this title is to exempt from tax a state charge for an entrance or admission to avoid layering a sales tax on top of publicly financed amenities.

(l) The statutory purpose of the Vermont rentals of coin-operated washing facilities exemption in subdivision 9741(19) of this title is to exempt coin-operated washing facilities on the basis that these facilities are the equivalent of a service.

(m) The statutory purpose of the Vermont admission fees to nonprofit museums exemption in subdivision 9741(20) of this title is to support the missions of certain nonprofit facilities and encourage higher visitation.

(n) The statutory purpose of the Vermont items sold to fire, ambulance, and rescue squads exemption in subdivision 9741(21) of this title is to limit the tax on organizations charged with protecting the safety of the public.

(o) The statutory purpose of the Vermont funeral charges exemption in subdivision 9741(22) of this title is to lessen the costs accumulated by the bereaved.

(p) The statutory purpose of the Vermont commercial, industrial, or agricultural research property use exemption in subdivision 9741(24) of this title is to reduce financial barriers to research and innovation in the commercial, industrial, and agricultural industries in order to increase these activities.

(q) The statutory purpose of the Vermont agricultural machinery and equipment exemption in subdivision 9741(25) of this title is to avoid tax pyramiding of agricultural products.

(r) The statutory purpose of the Vermont energy purchases for a residence exemption in subdivision 9741(26) of this title is to limit the tax on the purchase of goods that are necessary for the health and welfare of all people in Vermont.

(s) The statutory purpose of the Vermont energy purchases for farming exemption in subdivision 9741(27) of this title is to avoid tax pyramiding of agricultural products.

(t) The statutory purpose of the Vermont sales of films to movie theaters exemption in subdivision 9741(28) of this title is to avoid tax on items that are normally not for permanent use within the State.

(u) The statutory purpose of the Vermont aircraft and depreciable parts for commercial and private use exemption in subdivision 9741(29) of this title is to promote the growth of the aircraft maintenance industry in Vermont by lowering the cost of parts and equipment relative to other states with private airplane maintenance facilities.

(v) The statutory purpose of the Vermont railroad rolling stock and depreciable parts exemption in subdivision 9741(30) of this title is to increase the use of rail for transport by lowering the costs of maintenance.

(w) The statutory purpose of the Vermont ferryboats and depreciable parts exemption in subdivision 9741(31) of this title is to increase the use of ferry for transport by lowering the costs of maintenance.

(x) The statutory purpose of the Vermont sales of mobile homes and modular housing exemption in subdivision 9741(32) of this title is to create equity between mobile and modular housing and traditional residential

construction by providing an exemption for the estimated portion of the cost attributable to labor (versus materials).

(y) The statutory purpose of the Vermont United States flag sold to or by exempt veterans' organizations exemption in subdivision 9741(33) of this title is to support veterans' organizations in performing their traditional functions.

(z) The statutory purpose of the Vermont energy used in manufacturing tangible personal property for sale exemption in subdivision 9741(34) of this title is to avoid the taxation of manufacturing inputs and the pyramiding of taxes on goods produced in State.

(aa) The statutory purpose of the Vermont property transferred as part of personal service transaction or transfer of intangible property rights exemption in subdivision 9741(35) of this title is to exempt tangible personal property that is a small portion of a service because the cost of compliance exceeds the revenues.

(bb) The statutory purpose of the Vermont advertising materials exemption in subdivision 9741(36) of this title is to exempt tangible personal property if it is a small portion of a larger service.

(cc) The statutory purpose of the Vermont documents that record a professional service exemption in subdivision 9741(37) of this title is to exempt tangible personal property that is a small portion of a service package.

(dd) The statutory purpose of the Vermont tracked vehicles exemption in subdivision 9741(38) of this title is to limit the sales tax on construction vehicles such as bulldozers in order to lessen the cost of capital investments facilitated by those tracked vehicles.

(ee) The statutory purpose of the Vermont sales of building materials exemption in subdivisions 9741(39)(i) and (ii) of this title is to provide incentives to restore and revitalize downtown districts.

(ff) The statutory purpose of the Vermont wholesale transactions between telecommunications service providers exemption in subdivision 9741(41) of this title is to avoid taxation of inputs and intercompany transactions in order to avoid double taxation.

(gg) The statutory purpose of the Vermont third party scrap construction materials exemption in subdivision 9741(43) of this title is to promote the reuse and recycling of scrap construction materials.

(hh) The statutory purpose of the Vermont property incorporated in a railroad line exemption in subdivision 9741(44) of this title is to increase the use of rail for transport by lowering the costs of materials.

(ii) The statutory purpose of the Vermont clothing and footwear exemption in subdivision 9741(45) of this title is to limit the tax burden on the purchase of goods that are necessary for the health and welfare of all people in Vermont.

(jj) The statutory purpose of the Vermont property incorporated into a net metering system exemption, on-premise energy system not connected to the electric distribution system exemption, and solar hot water heating system exemption in subdivision 9741(46) of this title is to increase the deployment of solar electric generating technologies until the price of solar materials and installation decreases to the point it does not need State subsidization.

(kk) The statutory purpose of the Vermont purchases by and limited purchases from 501(c)(3) organizations exemption in subdivision 9743(3) of this title is to reduce costs for certain nonprofit organizations in order to allow them to dedicate more of their financial resources to furthering the public-service missions of the organizations.

(ll) The statutory purpose of the Vermont building materials and supplies used in construction or repair of buildings by governmental bodies, 501(c)(3) organizations, or development corporations exemption in subdivision 9743(4) of this title is to reduce the costs of construction for certain nonprofit organizations in order to allow them to dedicate more of their financial resources to furthering the public-service missions of the organizations.

(mm) The statutory purpose of the Vermont amusement charges for four events per year for 501(c)(4)-(13) and (19) organizations and political organizations exemption in subdivision 9743(5) of this title is to reduce the costs for and encourage participation in a limited number of events organized by certain nonprofit organizations in order to allow them to dedicate more of their financial resources to furthering the public-service missions of the organizations.

(nn) The statutory purpose of the Vermont amusement charges for events presented by 501(c)(3) organizations in subdivision 9743(7) of this title is to reduce the costs for and encourage participation in fundraising events organized by certain nonprofit organizations in order to allow them to dedicate more of their financial resources to furthering the public-service missions of the organizations.

(oo) The statutory purpose of the Vermont reallocation of receipts from tax imposed on sales of construction materials in section 9819 of this title is to provide incentives to restore and revitalize certain properties in designated downtown districts.

(pp) The statutory purpose of the Vermont sales by licensed auctioneers exemption in subdivision 9741(48) of this title is to extend the "casual sale" exemption to parallel situations involving an auctioneer.

* * * Property Taxes * * *

Sec. 7. 10 V.S.A. § 210 is added to read:

§ 210. STATUTORY PURPOSES

The statutory purpose of the Vermont local development corporations exemption in section 236 of this title is to exempt government-funded entities and promote economic development.

Sec. 8. 10 V.S.A. § 602 is added to read:

§ 602. STATUTORY PURPOSES

The statutory purpose of the Vermont Housing Finance Agency exemption in subsection 641(a) of this title is to exempt quasi-government entities that provide and promote affordable housing.

Sec. 9. 16 V.S.A. § 2170 is added to read:

§ 2170. STATUTORY PURPOSES

The statutory purpose of the Vermont State Colleges exemption in section 2178 of this title is to allow institutions providing higher education to deploy more of their financial resources to their educational missions by lowering their tax expenses.

Sec. 10. 16 App. V.S.A. § 1-15a is added to read:

§ 1-15a. STATUTORY PURPOSES

The statutory purpose of the University of Vermont exemption in section 1-15 of this chapter is to allow institutions providing higher education to deploy more of their financial resources to their educational missions by lowering their tax expenses.

Sec. 11. 18 V.S.A. § 5300 is added to read:

§ 5300. STATUTORY PURPOSES

The statutory purpose of the Vermont cemeteries exemption in sections 5317 and 5376 of this title is to exempt property with a fair market value that is difficult to ascertain and for which there are limited options for alternative uses.

Sec. 12. 22 V.S.A. § 68 is added to read:

§ 68. STATUTORY PURPOSES

The statutory purpose of the Vermont libraries exemption in section 109 of this title is to aid libraries in offering free and public access to information and research resources.

Sec. 13. 24 V.S.A. § 4000 is added to read:

§ 4000. STATUTORY PURPOSES

The statutory purpose of the Vermont housing authorities exemption in section 4020 of this title is to promote, provide, and preserve affordable housing in ways that encourage resident self-sufficiency and support healthy neighborhoods.

Sec. 14. 32 V.S.A. § 3750 is added to read:

§ 3750. STATUTORY PURPOSES

The statutory purpose of the Vermont Use Value Appraisal Program in chapter 124 of this title is to preserve the working landscape by making farm and forest operations more financially viable in the face of high property values.

Sec. 15. 32 V.S.A. § 3800 is added to read:

§ 3800. STATUTORY PURPOSES

(a) The statutory purpose of the Vermont federal and State government property exemption in subdivision 3802(1) of this title is to prevent government from taxing itself.

(b) The statutory purpose of the Vermont congressionally chartered organizations exemption in subdivision 3802(2) of this title is to support certain organizations with a patriotic, charitable, historical, or educational purpose.

(c) The statutory purpose of the Vermont public, pious, and charitable property exemption in sections 3832 and 3840 and subdivision 3802(4) of this title is to lower the tax expenses of certain organizations to allow them to dedicate more of their financial resources to furthering the public-service missions of the organizations.

(d) The statutory purpose of the Vermont Young Men's and Women's Christian Associations exemption in subdivision 3802(6) of this title is to lower the tax expenses of these organizations to allow them to dedicate more of their financial resources to furthering the public-service missions of the organizations.

(e) The statutory purpose of the Vermont cemeteries exemption in subdivision 3802(7) of this title is to exempt property with a fair market value

that is difficult to ascertain and for which there are limited options for alternative uses.

(f) The statutory purpose of the Vermont exemption for property owned by agricultural societies in subdivision 3802(9) of this title is to exempt property that is used to publicly support the State's agricultural economy.

(g) The statutory purpose of the Vermont \$10,000.00 exemption of appraised value of a residence for a veteran in subdivision 3802(11) of this title is to provide permanently property tax reductions to households that include a disabled veteran in recognition of his or her service to Vermont and to the country.

(h) The statutory purpose of the Vermont property exclusively installed and operated for the abatement of water pollution exemption in subdivision 3802(12) of this title is to encourage real property improvements that abate water pollution by nonpublic entities that would not qualify for an exemption as a government entity.

(i) The statutory purpose of the Vermont humane societies exemption in section 3802(15) of this title is to eliminate property taxes for organizations that protect animals to allow them to dedicate more of their financial resources to furthering the public-service missions of the organizations.

(j) The statutory purpose of the Vermont federally qualified health center or rural health clinic exemption in subdivision 3802(16) of this title is to support health centers that serve an underserved area or population, offer a sliding fee scale, provide comprehensive services, and have an ongoing quality assurance program by lowering their tax expenses.

(k) The statutory purpose of the Vermont railroad property alternative tax scheme in subdivision 3803(1) of this title is to provide an alternative tax scheme in lieu of the traditional method of applying the education property tax rate in order to achieve consistent valuation across municipalities.

(l) The statutory purpose of the Vermont telephone property alternative tax scheme in subdivision 3803(2) of this title is to provide an alternative tax scheme in lieu of the traditional method of applying the education property tax rate in order to achieve consistent valuation across municipalities.

(m) The statutory purpose of the Vermont permanent session law exemptions in 2008 Acts and Resolves No. 190, 1892 Acts and Resolves No. 213, 1945 Acts and Resolves No. 204, 1939 Acts and Resolves No. 250, 1921 Acts and Resolves No. 31, 1921 Acts and Resolves No. 262, 1910 Acts and Resolves No. 370, and 1900 Acts and Resolves No. 244 is to exempt permanently specific properties that have demonstrated an individual purpose to the General Assembly.

Sec. 16. 32 V.S.A. § 5400 is added to read:

§ 5400. STATUTORY PURPOSES

(a) The statutory purpose of the Vermont municipally owned property exemption in subdivision 5401(10)(F) of this title is to prevent government from taxing itself.

(b) The statutory purpose of the Vermont whey processing fixtures exemption in subdivision 5401(10)(G) of this title is to support industries using whey processing facilities to convert waste into value-added products.

(c) The statutory purpose of the Vermont municipalities hosting large power plants exemption in subsection 5402(d) of this title is to lower property taxes by 25 percent for businesses and residents of the community hosting a nuclear power facility.

(d) The statutory purpose of the Vermont qualified housing exemption in subdivision 5404a(a)(6) of this title is to reduce by 10 percent the assessment value on housing units with rent restrictions that make valuing these properties using the non-homestead income approach difficult and to ensure that taxes on this rent restricted housing provided to low and moderate- income Vermonters is more equivalent to property taxed using the state homestead rate.

(e) The statutory purpose of the Vermont tax increment financing districts in subsection 5404a(f) of this title is to allow communities to encourage investment that would not occur without approval of the district and to use locally the additional property tax revenue attributable to those improvements to pay off the debt incurred to construct the improvements.

(f) The statutory purpose of the Vermont Economic Progress Council approved stabilization agreements in section 5404a of this title are to provide exemptions on a case-by-case basis in conjunction with other economic development efforts in order to facilitate economic development that would not occur without the stabilization agreement.

(g) The statutory purpose of the Vermont large power plants alternative tax scheme in subdivision 5401(10)(B) of this title is to provide an alternative tax scheme in lieu of the traditional method of applying the education property tax rate in order to achieve consistent valuation across municipalities.

(h) The statutory purpose of the Vermont wind-powered electric generating facilities alternative tax scheme in subdivision 5401(10)(J)(i) of this title is to provide an alternative tax scheme in lieu of the traditional method of applying the education property tax rate in order to achieve consistent valuation across municipalities.

(i) The statutory purpose of the Vermont renewable energy plant generating electricity from solar power alternative tax structure in subdivision 5401(10)(J)(ii) is to provide an alternative tax scheme in lieu of the traditional method of applying the education property tax rate in order to achieve consistent valuation across municipalities.

Sec. 17. 32 V.S.A. § 6060 is added to read:

§ 6060. STATUTORY PURPOSES

(a) The statutory purpose of the Vermont property tax adjustments in chapter 154 of this title ~~is to allow property taxes on homesteads~~ is to allow education property taxes on homesteads to be based upon a household's income.

(b) The statutory purpose of the Vermont \$10,000.00 exemption of appraised value of a residence for a veteran in subsection 6066(i) of this title is to permanently provide property tax reductions to households that include a disabled veteran in recognition of his or her service to Vermont and to the country.

* * * Insurance Premium Taxes * * *

Sec. 18. 8 V.S.A. § 3700 is added to read:

§ 3700. STATUTORY PURPOSES

The statutory purpose of the Vermont annuity considerations in section 3718 of this title is to exempt nontraditional insurance or financial products, or both, from taxation in order to avoid reciprocity from foreign jurisdictions.

Sec. 19. 8 V.S.A. § 4460 is added to read:

§ 4460. STATUTORY PURPOSES

The statutory purpose of the Vermont fraternal societies in section 4500 of this title is to support benevolent societies that provide benefits to its members and to the community.

* * * Transportation Taxes * * *

Sec. 20. 23 V.S.A. § 3000 is added to read:

§ 3000. STATUTORY PURPOSES

The statutory purpose of the Vermont diesel tax exemption in section 3003 of this title is to exempt off-road uses and farm trucks from the user fee for the State highway system. The exemption for municipal entities and public transit agencies is to avoid the taxation of governmental and quasi-governmental entities.

Sec. 21. 32 V.S.A. § 8900 is added to read:

§ 8900. STATUTORY PURPOSES

(a) The statutory purpose of the Vermont pious or charitable institutions or volunteer fire companies exemption in subdivision 8911(3) of this title is to lower the tax expenses of pious and charitable organizations considered exempt under subdivision 3802(4) of this title to allow them to dedicate more of their financial resources to furthering the public-service missions of the organizations.

(b) The statutory purpose of the Vermont nonregistered vehicles exemption in subdivision 8911(5) of this title is to exempt vehicles that are not entitled to use the State highway system from the tax.

(c) The statutory purpose of the Vermont gifts exemption in subdivision 8911(8) of this title is to avoid the intrusion of a tax into sharing transactions that are common within families.

(d) The statutory purpose of the Internal Revenue Code § 351 exemption in subdivision 8911(10) of this title is to limit the tax to transfers of ownership between two distinct parties.

(e) The statutory purpose of the Vermont handicapped exemption in subdivision 8911(12) of this title is to lessen the cost of purchasing a vehicle that has been modified to meet the physical needs of a qualifying Vermonter.

(f) The statutory purpose of the Vermont veterans exemption in subdivision 8911(14) of this title is to remove every cost to a qualifying veteran of receiving a vehicle granted by the Veterans' Administration.

(g) The statutory purpose of the Vermont general exemption of trade-in value in subdivisions 8902(4) and (5) of this title is to ensure the use value of a vehicle is taxed only once.

Sec. 22. REPEALS

(a) 32 V.S.A. § 9771a (limitation of tax on telecommunications services) is repealed on January 1, 2015.

(b) 32 V.S.A. § 3802(5) (college fraternities and societies exemption) is repealed on July 1, 2014.

** * * Effective Date * * **

Sec. 23. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2014.