

1 H.791

2 Introduced by Representatives Fay of St. Johnsbury, Buxton of Tunbridge,
3 Christie of Hartford, Conquest of Newbury, Cupoli of Rutland
4 City, Davis of Washington, Donovan of Burlington, Grad of
5 Moretown, Juskiewicz of Cambridge, Krowinski of Burlington,
6 Lippert of Hinesburg, Marek of Newfane, Masland of Thetford,
7 McCarthy of St. Albans City, Michelsen of Hardwick, Mook of
8 Bennington, O'Sullivan of Burlington, Partridge of Windham,
9 Pearson of Burlington, Rachelson of Burlington, Ram of
10 Burlington, South of St. Johnsbury, Spengler of Colchester,
11 Stevens of Waterbury, Stevens of Shoreham, Strong of Albany,
12 Stuart of Brattleboro, Townsend of South Burlington,
13 Waite-Simpson of Essex, Weed of Enosburgh, Wizowaty of
14 Burlington, and Zagar of Barnard

15 Referred to Committee on

16 Date:

17 Subject: Housing; Housing First; study committee

18 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to create a
19 Housing First Study Committee for the purpose of examining statewide
20 implementation of the Housing First model.

1 An act relating to the Housing First Study Committee

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

3 Sec. 1. HOUSING FIRST STUDY COMMITTEE; REPORT

4 (a) Creation. There is created a Housing First study committee to assess
5 the feasibility and likely outcomes of implementing the Housing First model
6 statewide.

7 (b) Membership. The Committee shall be composed of the following
8 12 members:

9 (1) a member from each of the House Committees on Appropriations, on
10 Corrections and Institutions, on General, Housing and Military Affairs, on
11 Human Services, and on Judiciary, not all from the same political party, who
12 shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House;

13 (2) a member from each of the Senate Committees on Appropriations,
14 on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs, on Health and
15 Welfare, and on Judiciary, and one Senator selected from at large, not all from
16 the same political party, who shall be appointed by the Committee on
17 Committees;

18 (3) a representative of the Vermont Affordable Housing Coalition; and

19 (4) a representative of the Vermont Council on Homelessness.

20 (c) Powers and duties. The Committee shall evaluate the Housing First
21 model, including the following:

1 (1) the experience and effectiveness of Pathways Vermont in
2 implementing the Housing First model for the benefit of individuals with
3 psychiatric disabilities;

4 (2) the experience and effectiveness of other states in implementing the
5 Housing First model for the purpose of addressing chronic homelessness;

6 (3) the impact that statewide adoption of the Housing First model would
7 have on private landlords; and

8 (4) the fiscal impact of adopting the Housing First model statewide.

9 (d)(1) Assistance. The Committee shall have the administrative, technical,
10 and legal assistance of the Office of Legislative Council and the Joint Fiscal
11 Office.

12 (2) The Joint Fiscal Office, in consultation with the Agency of Human
13 Services, shall prepare an analysis of any projected savings or costs attributed
14 to statewide implementation of the Housing First model, which shall be
15 presented at the first meeting of the Committee.

16 (e) Report. On or before December 15, 2014, the Committee shall submit
17 a written report to the General Assembly with its findings and any
18 recommendations for legislative action.

19 (f) Meetings.

1 (1) The members representing the House and Senate Committees on
2 Appropriations shall jointly call the first meeting of the Housing First Study
3 Committee to occur on or before August 1, 2014.

4 (2) The Committee shall select a chair from among its members at its
5 first meeting.

6 (3)(A) A majority of the members of the Committee shall be physically
7 present at the same location to constitute a quorum.

8 (B) A member may vote only if physically present at the meeting
9 location.

10 (C) Action shall be taken only if there is both a quorum and a
11 majority vote of the members physically present and voting.

12 (4) The Committee shall meet no more than four times.

13 (5) The Committee shall cease to exist on December 31, 2014.

14 (g) Reimbursement.

15 (1) For attendance at meetings during adjournment of the General
16 Assembly, legislative members of the Committee shall be entitled to per diem
17 compensation and reimbursement of expenses pursuant to 2 V.S.A. § 406 for
18 no more than four meetings.

19 (2) Other members of the Committee who are not employees of the State
20 of Vermont and who are not otherwise compensated or reimbursed for their

1 attendance shall be entitled to per diem compensation and reimbursement of
2 expenses pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 1010 for no more than four meetings.

3 (h) Appropriation. The sum of \$ 6,500.00 is appropriated to the General
4 Assembly from the General Fund in fiscal year 2015 for per diem
5 compensation and reimbursement of expenses for members of the Committee.

6 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

7 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2014.