

1 TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

2 The Committee on Ways and Means to which was referred House Bill No.  
3 586 entitled “An act relating to improving the quality of State waters”  
4 respectfully reports that it has considered the same and recommends that the  
5 bill be amended as follows:

6 First: In Sec. 2, 6 V.S.A. § 4858a, in subsection (a), by striking “On or  
7 before January 1, 2016, the” and inserting in lieu thereof The.

8 Second: In Sec. 4, 6 V.S.A. § 4810, in subsection (c), by striking “On or  
9 before January 1, 2016, the” and inserting in lieu thereof The.

10 Third: In Sec. 8, in 6 V.S.A. § 4981, in subsection (a), by striking “On or  
11 before January 1, 2016, the” and inserting in lieu thereof The.

12 Fourth: In Sec. 9, in 6 V.S.A. § 4988, in subsection (a), by striking “On or  
13 before January 1, 2015, the” and inserting in lieu thereof The.

14 Fifth: In Sec. 9, in 6 V.S.A. § 4988, in subsection (b), by striking  
15 “Beginning January 1, 2016, a” and inserting in lieu thereof A.

16 Sixth: In Sec. 9a, 6 V.S.A. § 4810a, in subsection (b), by striking “On or  
17 before January 1, 2016, the” and inserting in lieu thereof The.

18 Seventh: By striking out Sec. 9b (agricultural water quality tax credit) in its  
19 entirety and by inserting in lieu thereof Sec. 9b. [Deleted.]

1       Eighth: In Sec. 10, 10 V.S.A. § 1264, in subdivision (b)(12), in the second  
2 sentence, by striking “Beginning on July 1, 2014, the” and inserting in lieu  
3 thereof The.

4       Ninth: In Sec. 12, in subdivision (a)(1), by striking “section 1264 of this  
5 title” and inserting in lieu thereof 10 V.S.A. § 1264.

6       Tenth: In Sec. 12, by striking out subsections (b) and (c) in their entirety  
7 and inserting new subsections (b) and (c) to read:

8       (b) Voluntary certification. The Agency of Natural Resources, in  
9 consultation with the Associated General Contractors of Vermont, shall  
10 develop an optional shoreland erosion control certification program. The  
11 program shall include training related to the disturbance of soil, clearance of  
12 vegetation, and construction of impervious surfaces of more than 1,000 square  
13 feet in a shoreland area. The voluntary certification program shall end after  
14 three years of operation.

15       (c) Report. After two years of operation of the certification program, the  
16 Agency of Natural Resources shall report to the House and Senate Committees  
17 on Natural Resources and Energy and the House Committee on Fish, Wildlife  
18 and Water Resources regarding the voluntary shoreland erosion control  
19 certification program created in subsection (b) of this section. The report shall  
20 include:

1           (1) a general summary of the program’s success, including an overview  
2           of shoreland projects constructed by certified persons;

3           (2) the number of persons certified under the certification program;

4           (3) a recommendation of whether the State should continue the  
5           voluntary certification program, including whether to make the program  
6           mandatory; and

7           (4) any other recommendations for improving the program.

8           Eleventh: By striking out Sec. 13 (portable skidder project appropriation)  
9           in its entirety and by inserting in lieu thereof Sec. 13. [Deleted.]

10          Twelfth: By striking out Sec. 14 (town highway match) in its entirety and  
11          by inserting in lieu thereof Sec. 14. [Deleted.]

12          Thirteenth: By striking out Sec. 16 and inserting in lieu thereof a new  
13          Sec. 16 to read:

14          Sec. 16. AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES REPORT ON WATER  
15                  QUALITY FINANCING

16          On or before January 15, 2015, the Secretary of Natural Resources, after  
17          consultation with the Joint Fiscal Office, the Secretary of Agriculture, Food  
18          and Markets, and the Secretary of Transportation, shall submit to the Senate  
19          and House Committees on Natural Resources and Energy, the House  
20          Committee on Fish, Wildlife and Water Resources, the House Committee on  
21          Ways and Means, the Senate Committee on Finance, and the Senate and House

1 Committees on Appropriations a report that provides recommendations for  
2 establishing financing mechanisms for the requirements of this act and other  
3 State actions to improve the quality of State waters. The report shall include:

4 (1) a summary of the anticipated costs for each agency to implement the  
5 requirements of this act;

6 (2) a summary and analysis of existing State tax expenditures that affect  
7 State water quality;

8 (3) a recommendation for a financing mechanism that assesses property  
9 owners in the State based on the property's impact on water quality;

10 (4) at least two alternative financing mechanisms in addition to the  
11 recommendation under subdivision (3) of this section, which may include a  
12 recommendation for an excise tax;

13 (5) a summary of how each recommended financing mechanism would  
14 be implemented, including administration and enforcement; and

15 (6) an estimated amount of revenue that each recommended financing  
16 proposal would generate.

17 Fourteenth: By striking out Sec. 17 (meals and rooms tax) in its entirety  
18 and by inserting in lieu thereof Sec. 17. [Deleted.]

19 Fifteenth: By striking out Sec. 18 (meals and rooms tax) in its entirety and  
20 by inserting in lieu thereof Sec. 18. [Deleted.]

1        Sixteenth: By striking out Sec. 19 (meals and rooms tax) in its entirety and  
2 by inserting in lieu thereof Sec. 19. [Deleted.]

3        Seventeenth: By striking out Sec. 20 (rental car tax) in its entirety and by  
4 inserting in lieu thereof Sec. 20. [Deleted.]

5        Eighteenth: By striking out Sec. 21 (rental car tax) in its entirety and by  
6 inserting in lieu thereof Sec. 21. [Deleted.]

7        Nineteenth: By striking out Sec. 22 (ecosystem restoration program fund)  
8 in its entirety and by inserting in lieu thereof Sec. 22. [Deleted.]

9        Twentieth: By striking out Sec. 24 in its entirety and inserting in lieu  
10 thereof a new Sec. 24 to read:

11        Sec. 24. EFFECTIVE DATES

12        (a) This section and Sec. 13 (water quality restoration financing report)  
13 shall take effect on passage.

14        (b) Secs. 1 (agricultural findings), 2–4 (small farm certification rules), 5  
15 (Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets corrective action), 6 (livestock  
16 exclusion), 7 (seasonal exemption for application of manure), 8 (agricultural  
17 water quality certification), 9 (custom applicator certification), 9a (agricultural  
18 stream alteration), 10 (stormwater model bylaw), 11 (water quality data  
19 coordination), and 12 (shoreland contractor certification) shall take effect one  
20 year after the General Assembly appropriates or otherwise generates funding  
21 sufficient to fund the requirements of this act.