

1 TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

2 The Committee on Agriculture and Forest Products to which was referred  
3 House Bill No. 799 entitled “An act relating to the importation of untreated  
4 firewood” respectfully reports that it has considered the same and recommends  
5 that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and  
6 inserting in lieu thereof the following:

7 Sec. 1. 10 V.S.A. chapter 83, subchapter 8 is added to read:

8 Subchapter 8. Importation of Firewood

9 § 2681. IMPORTATION OF FIREWOOD; PROTECTION FROM

10 INVASIVE PESTS

11 (a) Definitions. As used in this section:

12 (1) “Commissioner” means the Commissioner of Forests, Parks and  
13 Recreation.

14 (2) “Department” means the Department of Forests, Parks and  
15 Recreation.

16 (3) “Firewood” means wood that is sold or transported for residential  
17 and recreational consumption in fireplaces, woodstoves, outdoor fireplaces, or  
18 campfires. “Firewood” shall not mean wood chips, wood pellets, fuel for  
19 biomass boilers, pulpwood, or other wood sold or transported for  
20 manufacturing purposes.

1        (b) Rulemaking. On or before July 1, 2015, the Commissioner, after  
2        consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets, shall adopt  
3        rules regulating the importation of firewood into the State. The rules shall  
4        address:

5                (1) whether certain types of firewood should be prohibited from  
6        importation due to the potential to spread invasive species;

7                (2) whether a health certificate or some other approval shall be required  
8        to import firewood;

9                (3) whether persons who produce or sell firewood in the State shall be  
10       required to track purchases of firewood from out of State in order to allow for  
11       identification of sources of invasive species; and

12               (4) any other issue the Commissioner identifies as necessary for  
13       preventing the importation of invasive species into the State when importing  
14       firewood.

15       Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

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

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18       (Committee vote: \_\_\_\_\_)

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Representative \_\_\_\_\_

FOR THE COMMITTEE