

1 TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

2 The Committee on General, Housing and Military Affairs to which was
3 referred House Bill No. 791 entitled “An act relating to the Housing First
4 Study Committee” respectfully reports that it has considered the same and
5 recommends that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting
6 clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

7 Sec. 1. HOUSING FIRST STUDY COMMITTEE; REPORT

8 (a) Creation. There is created a committee to evaluate and investigate the
9 causes and conditions of chronic homelessness in Vermont, and to propose
10 solutions that will provide stable and safe housing that individuals may afford.

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

13 (1) two members from the House of Representatives, who shall be
14 appointed by the Speaker of the House;

15 (2) two members from the Senate, who shall be appointed by the
16 Committee on Committees;

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

18 (4) a representative of the Vermont Coalition to End Homelessness;

19 (5) the Executive Director of the Vermont State Housing Authority or
20 designee;

1 (6) the Director of Housing for the Agency of Human Services or
2 designee;

3 (7) a representative from the Vermont Apartment Owners Association;

4 (8) the Executive Director of the Vermont Housing Finance Agency or
5 designee;

6 (9) the Commissioner of Mental Health or designee;

7 (10) the Commissioner of Corrections or designee;

8 (11) the Executive Director of Pathways Vermont or designee.

9 (12) the Executive Director of the Vermont Housing and Conservation
10 Board or designee; and

11 (13) a member of the public who has experienced homelessness.

12 (c) Powers and duties. The Committee shall:

13 (1) evaluate and investigate the causes and conditions of chronic
14 homelessness in Vermont, and propose solutions to providing stable and safe
15 housing that individuals may afford;

16 (2) evaluate and investigate the experience and results of existing
17 programs that currently address the needs of individuals who are or have been
18 chronically homeless; and

19 (3) conduct an analysis of supportive housing programs and:

20 (A) the service costs of one or more service providers;

1 (B) the costs associated with creating additional housing units
2 dedicated for these models; and

3 (C) the outcomes measured to determine whether the clients served
4 will be better off; and

5 (D) the costs associated with providing rental subsidies.

6 (d)(1) Assistance. The Committee shall have the administrative, technical,
7 and legal assistance of the Office of Legislative Council and the Joint Fiscal
8 Office.

9 (2) The Joint Fiscal Office, in consultation with the Agency of Human
10 Services and other agencies represented on the Committee, shall prepare an
11 analysis of any projected savings or costs attributed to programs that address
12 chronic homelessness, which shall be presented at the first meeting of the
13 Committee.

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

17 (f) Meetings.

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

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

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

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

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

9 (4) The Committee shall meet no more than six times.

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

11 (g) Reimbursement.

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

16 (2) Other members of the Committee who are not employees of the State
17 of Vermont and who are not otherwise compensated or reimbursed for their
18 attendance shall be entitled to per diem compensation and reimbursement of
19 expenses pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 1010 for no more than six meetings.

1 (h) Appropriation. The General Assembly shall appropriate \$6,500.00
2 from the fiscal year 2015 General Fund to members of the Committee for per
3 diem compensation and expenses reimbursement.

4 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

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

6

7 (Committee vote: _____)

8

9

Representative _____

10

FOR THE COMMITTEE