

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 study committee to assess the impact,
9 efficiency, and cost of supportive housing, including the Housing First model.

10 (b) Membership. The Committee shall be composed of the following
11 13 members:

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

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

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

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

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

20 (6) the Director of Housing for the Agency of Human Services or
21 designee;

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

2 (8) the Executive Director of the Vermont Home Finance Agency or
3 designee;

4 (9) the Commissioner of the Vermont Department of Mental Health or
5 designee;

6 (10) the Commissioner of the Vermont Department of Corrections or
7 designee; and

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

9 (c) Powers and duties. The Committee shall evaluate supportive housing
10 and the Housing First model, including:

11 (1) the experience and effectiveness of an existing Housing First
12 program for the benefit of individuals with psychiatric disabilities who are or
13 have been chronically homeless;

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

16 (3) an analysis of:

17 (A) the service costs of the primary service provider;

18 (B) the service costs of secondary service providers;

19 (C) the costs for municipalities;

20 (D) the costs associated with creating additional housing units

21 dedicated for these models; and

1 (E) the costs associated with providing rental subsidies; and

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

3 (d)(1) Assistance. The Committee shall have the administrative, technical,
4 and legal assistance of the Office of Legislative Council and the Joint Fiscal
5 Office.

6 (2) The Joint Fiscal Office, in consultation with the Agency of Human
7 Services, shall prepare an analysis of any projected savings or costs attributed
8 to statewide implementation of supportive housing and the Housing First
9 model, which shall be presented at the first meeting of the Committee.

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

13 (f) Meetings.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

7 (g) Reimbursement.

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

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

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

19 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

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

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1 (Committee vote: _____)

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Representative _____

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FOR THE COMMITTEE