

**HFWWR Proposed Amendments to H.521: An Act relating to the Government Accountability Committee and the Annual Report on the State's Population-level Outcomes**

<p align="center"><b>H.521. As Introduced</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>H.521. As Proposed for Amendment by HFWWR</b></p>
<p>Sec. 1. 2 V.S.A. § 970 is amended to read:</p> <p>§ 970. GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE</p> <p>(a) There is created a joint legislative Government Accountability Committee. The Committee shall recommend mechanisms for State government to be more forward-thinking, strategic, and responsive to the long-term needs of Vermonters. In pursuit of this goal, the Committee shall:</p> <p align="center">* * *</p> <p>(8) Assess the effectiveness of <del>the performance measures</del> <u>for population-level indicators in measuring progress in achieving population-level outcomes, and annually review population-level indicators in the context of new data development.</u></p> <p align="center">* * *</p>	<p>Sec. 1. 2 V.S.A. § 970 is amended to read:</p> <p>§ 970. GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE</p> <p>(a) There is created a joint legislative Government Accountability Committee. The Committee shall recommend mechanisms for State government to be more forward-thinking, strategic, and responsive to the long-term needs of Vermonters. In pursuit of this goal, the Committee shall:</p> <p align="center">* * *</p> <p>(8) Assess the effectiveness of the performance measures <u>for short-term and long-term trends in the population-level indicators in measuring progress of the State in achieving the population-level outcomes, and annually review the population-level indicators for effectiveness in measuring success and in the context of new data development.</u></p> <p align="center">* * *</p>

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<p>Sec. 2. 3 V.S.A. § 2311 is amended to read:</p> <p>§ 2311. CHIEF PERFORMANCE OFFICER; ANNUAL REPORT ON POPULATION-LEVEL OUTCOMES USING INDICATORS</p> <p>(a) Report. Annually, on or before <del>July 30</del> <u>September 30</u>, the Chief Performance Officer within the Agency of Administration shall report to the General Assembly on the State’s progress in reaching the population-level outcomes for each area of Vermont’s quality of life set forth in subsection (b) of this section by providing data for the population-level indicators that are <del>requested</del> <u>approved</u> pursuant to the process set forth in subsection (c) of this section.</p> <p>(b) Vermont population-level quality of life outcomes.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Vermont has a prosperous economy.</li> <li>(2) Vermonters are healthy.</li> <li>(3) Vermont’s environment is clean and sustainable.</li> <li>(4) Vermont’s communities are safe and supportive.</li> <li>(5) Vermont’s families are safe, nurturing, stable, and</li> </ol>	<p>Sec. 2. 3 V.S.A. § 2311 is amended to read:</p> <p>§ 2311. CHIEF PERFORMANCE OFFICER; ANNUAL REPORT ON POPULATION-LEVEL OUTCOMES USING INDICATORS</p> <p>(a) Report. Annually, on or before <del>July 30</del> <u>September 30</u>, the Chief Performance Officer within the Agency of Administration shall report to the General Assembly on the State’s progress in reaching the population-level outcomes for each area of Vermont’s quality of life set forth in subsection (b) of this section by providing data for the population-level indicators that are <del>requested</del> <u>approved</u> pursuant to the process set forth in subsection (c) of this section.</p> <p>(b) Vermont population-level quality of life outcomes.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Vermont has a prosperous economy, <u>including a robust forest sector</u>.</li> <li>(2) Vermonters are healthy.</li> <li>(3) Vermont’s environment is clean and sustainable.</li> <li>(4) Vermont’s communities are safe and supportive.</li> </ol>

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<p>supported.</p> <p>(6) Vermont’s children and young people achieve their potential, including:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(A) Pregnant women and young people thrive.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(B) Children are ready for school.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(C) Children succeed in school.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(D) Youths choose healthy behaviors.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(E) Youths successfully transition to adulthood.</p> <p>(7) Vermont’s elders and people with disabilities and people with mental conditions live with dignity and independence in settings they prefer.</p> <p>(8) Vermont has open, effective, and inclusive government <u>at the State and local levels with a supported, motivated, and accountable State workforce.</u></p> <p>(9) <u>Vermont’s State infrastructure meets the needs of Vermonters, the economy, and the environment.</u></p>	<p>(5) Vermont’s families are safe, nurturing, stable, and supported.</p> <p>(6) Vermont’s children and young people achieve their potential, including:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(A) Pregnant women and young people thrive.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(B) Children are ready for school.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(C) Children succeed in school.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(D) Youths choose healthy behaviors.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(E) Youths successfully transition to adulthood.</p> <p>(7) Vermont’s elders and people with disabilities and people with mental conditions live with dignity and independence in settings they prefer.</p> <p>(8) Vermont has open, effective, and inclusive government <u>at the State and local levels with a supported, motivated, and accountable State workforce.</u></p> <p>(9) <u>Vermont’s State infrastructure meets the needs of Vermonters, the economy, and the environment.</u></p>

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<p>Sec. 3. INITIAL POPULATION-LEVEL INDICATORS</p> <p>Until any population-level indicators are <del>requested</del> <u>approved</u> pursuant to the provisions of Sec. 2 of this act, 3 V.S.A. § 2311(c) (<del>requesting</del> <u>approving</u> population-level indicators), each population-level quality of life outcome set forth in Sec. 2 of this act, 3 V.S.A. § 2311(b) (Vermont population-level quality of life outcomes), and listed in this section shall have the following population-level indicators:</p> <p>(1) Vermont has a prosperous economy.</p> <p>(A) percent or rate per 1,000 jobs of nonpublic sector employment;</p> <p>(B) median household income;</p> <p>(C) <del>percent of Vermont covered by state-of-the-art telecommunications infrastructure;</del></p> <p><del>(D)</del> median house price;</p> <p><del>(E)</del><u>(D)</u> rate of resident unemployment per 1,000 residents;</p>	<p>Sec. 3. INITIAL POPULATION-LEVEL INDICATORS</p> <p>Until any population-level indicators are <del>requested</del> <u>approved</u> pursuant to the provisions of Sec. 2 of this act, 3 V.S.A. § 2311(c) (<del>requesting</del> <u>approving</u> population-level indicators), each population-level quality of life outcome set forth in Sec. 2 of this act, 3 V.S.A. § 2311(b) (Vermont population-level quality of life outcomes), and listed in this section shall have the following population-level indicators:</p> <p>(1) Vermont has a prosperous economy, <u>including a robust forest sector</u>.</p> <p>(A) percent or rate per 1,000 jobs of nonpublic sector employment;</p> <p>(B) median household income;</p> <p>(C) <del>percent of Vermont covered by state-of-the-art telecommunications infrastructure;</del></p> <p><del>(D)</del> median house price;</p> <p><del>(E)</del><u>(D)</u> rate of resident unemployment per 1,000 residents;</p>

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<p><u>(E) annualized unemployment rate;</u></p> <p><del>(F) percent of structurally deficient bridges, as defined by the Vermont Agency of Transportation; and</del></p> <p><del>(G) percent of food <u>total farm</u> sales that come from Vermont farms;</del></p> <p><u>(G) percent of fruit and vegetable farms by sales outlet;</u></p> <p><u>(H) increase in gross working lands income over previous year, for grantees of Working Lands Program; and</u></p> <p><u>(I) number of farmers' markets.</u></p>	<p><u>(E) annualized unemployment rate;</u></p> <p><del>(F) percent of structurally deficient bridges, as defined by the Vermont Agency of Transportation; and</del></p> <p><del>(G) percent of food <u>total farm</u> sales that come from Vermont farms;</del></p> <p><u>(G) percent of fruit and vegetable farms by sales outlet;</u></p> <p><u>(H) increase in gross working lands income over previous year, for grantees of Working Lands Program;</u></p> <p><u>(I) number of farmers' markets;</u></p> <p><u>(J) direct output of sustainable forest products measured in annual dollars;</u></p> <p><u>(B) amount in dollars of the economic multiplier of the forest economy;</u></p> <p><u>(C) percent of forest free from disease and invasive species; and</u></p> <p><u>(D) total revenue from scenery, fall foliage, tourism, and recreation.</u></p>

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<p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(3) Vermont’s environment is clean and sustainable.</p> <p>(A) cumulative number of waters subject to TMDLs or alternative pollution control plans;</p> <p>(B) percent of <del>water, sewer, and stormwater systems that meet federal and State public drinking water supplies in compliance with health-based</del> standards;</p> <p>(C) <del>carbon dioxide per capita total greenhouse gas emissions per capita, in units of annual metric tons of equivalent carbon dioxide per capita; and</del></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(3) Vermont’s environment is clean and sustainable.</p> <p>(A) <u>cumulative number of waters subject to TMDLs or alternative pollution control plans reduction in the number of untreated discharges to waters of the State from pollution abatement systems or on-site wastewater systems;</u></p> <p>(B) <u>percent of water, sewer, and stormwater systems that meet federal and State standards increase in the number of public water systems in compliance with drinking water standards;</u></p> <p>(C) <u>reduction in the number of days public waters or State parks are closed or subject to a public health alert due to an environmental health risk;</u></p> <p><del>(C)</del> (D) <u>carbon dioxide per capita total greenhouse gas emissions per capita, in units of annual metric tons of equivalent carbon dioxide per capita; and</u></p>

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<p>(D) <u>electricity by fuel or power type percent of Vermont retail electric sales from renewable energy;</u></p> <p>(E) <u>percent of river miles with water quality that meets designated uses;</u></p> <p>(F) <u>percent of watersheds in Vermont where pollutant loads are declining;</u></p> <p>(G) <u>percent of previously impaired waters meeting standards based on corrective actions;</u></p> <p>(H) <u>total number of days with air quality alerts;</u></p> <p>(I) <u>disposal rate of municipal solid waste in pounds per person per day; and</u></p> <p>(J) <u>total number of acres that have been or will be cleaned up or redeveloped based on sites enrolled in the <u>Brownfields Program.</u></u></p>	<p><del>(D)</del> (E) <u>electricity by fuel or power type percent of Vermont retail electric sales from renewable energy;</u></p> <p><del>(E)</del>-(F) <u>percent of river miles with water quality that meets designated uses Vermont’s inland waters that meet State water quality standards;</u></p> <p><del>(F)</del> (G) <u>percent of watersheds in Vermont where pollutant loads are declining Lake Champlain that meets State water quality standards;</u></p> <p><del>(G)</del> (H) <u>percent of previously impaired waters meeting standards based on corrective actions changes in total phosphorus loading to the sectors of Lake Champlain from Vermont sources;</u></p> <p>(H) <u>total number of days with air quality alerts;</u></p> <p>(I) <u>disposal rate of municipal solid waste in pounds per person per day; and</u></p> <p>(J) <u>total number of acres that have been or will be cleaned up or redeveloped based on sites enrolled in the <u>Brownfields Program;</u></u></p>

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<p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p><u>(9) Vermont’s State infrastructure meets the needs of Vermonters, the economy, and the environment.</u></p> <p><u>(A) percent of Vermont covered by state-of-the-art telecommunications infrastructure; and</u></p>	<p><u>(K) the environmental benefits of a diverse and disease free State forest, including the benefits of the forest on air quality; water quality, wildlife, and flood mitigation, as measured by the percent of forest cover in the State;</u></p> <p><u>(L) number of Vermont waters with sustainable wild fish populations;</u></p> <p><u>(M) the health of the deer herd and bear populations in the State;</u></p> <p><u>(N) number of species of wildlife and wild plants in the State that are listed as threatened or endangered under State or federal law; and</u></p> <p><u>(O) increase in positive public response to efficacy of the State’s environmental programs.</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p><u>(9) Vermont’s State infrastructure meets the needs of Vermonters, the economy, and the environment.</u></p> <p><u>(A) percent of Vermont covered by state-of-the-art telecommunications infrastructure; <del>and</del></u></p>



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<p><u>(B) percent of structurally-deficient bridges, as defined by the Agency of Transportation.</u></p>	<p><u>(B) percent of structurally-deficient bridges, as defined by the Agency of Transportation; and</u></p> <p><u>(C) number of pollution abatement facilities or public water systems requiring upgrading or modification.</u></p>