TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

| The Committee on Government Operations to which was referred House |
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| Bill No. 458 entitled "An act relating to automatic voter registration through |
| motor vehicle driver's license applications" respectfully reports that it has |
| considered the same and recommends that the bill be amended by striking out |
| all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following: |
| Sec. 1. 17 V.S.A. § 2145a is amended to read: |
| § 2145a. REGISTRATIONS AT THE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR |
| VEHICLES |
| |

- (a) An application for, or renewal of, a motor vehicle driver's license <u>or</u> nondriver identification card shall serve as a simultaneous application to register to vote unless the applicant declines to sign the voter registration portion of the application checks the box on the application designating that he or she declines to use the application as a voter registration application.
- (b)(1) The voter registration portion of the A motor vehicle driver's license or nondriver identification card application shall provide and request the following information required to be provided under section 2145 of this chapter and shall be in the form approved by the Secretary of State.:
 - (A) The applicant's citizenship.
- 20 (B) The applicant's place and date of birth.
- 21 (C) The applicant's town of legal residence.

| 1 | (D) The applicant's street address or a description of the physical |
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| 2 | location of the applicant's residence. The description must contain sufficient |
| 3 | information so that the town clerk can determine whether the applicant is a |
| 4 | resident of the town. |
| 5 | (E) The voter's oath. |
| 6 | (F) The applicant's e-mail address, which shall be optional to |
| 7 | provide. |
| 8 | (2) A motor vehicle driver's license or nondriver identification card |
| 9 | application shall provide the following statements: |
| 10 | (A) "By signing and submitting this application, you are authorizing |
| 11 | the Department of Motor Vehicles to transmit this application to the Secretary |
| 12 | of State for voter registration purposes. The office through which you |
| 13 | submitted this application will remain confidential and will be used only for |
| 14 | voter registration purposes." |
| 15 | (B) "YOU MAY DECLINE TO REGISTER. If you decline to |
| 16 | register, your failure to register will remain confidential and will be used only |
| 17 | for voter registration purposes." |
| 18 | (C) "In order to be registered to vote, you must: (1) be a U.S. citizen: |
| 19 | (2) be a resident of Vermont; (3) have taken the voter's oath; and (4) be |
| 20 | 18 years of age or older. Failure to decline to register is an attestation that you |
| 21 | meet the requirements to vote." |

| 1 | (3) A motor vehicle driver's license or nondriver identification card |
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| 2 | application shall provide the penalties provided by law for submission of a |
| 3 | false voter registration application and shall require the signature of the |
| 4 | applicant, under penalty of perjury. |
| 5 | * * * |
| 6 | (d)(1) The Department of Motor Vehicles shall transmit voter registration |
| 7 | motor vehicle driver's license and nondriver identification card applications |
| 8 | received under this section to the Secretary of State not later than five days |
| 9 | after the date the application was accepted by the Department, or before the |
| 10 | date of any primary or general election, whichever is sooner. |
| 11 | (2) The Department of Motor Vehicles shall not transmit motor vehicles |
| 12 | driver's license and nondriver identification card applications when the |
| 13 | applicant has designated that he or she declines to be registered. |
| 14 | * * * |
| 15 | Sec. 2. 17 V.S.A. § 2145 is amended to read: |
| 16 | § 2145. APPLICATION FORMS |
| 17 | (a) The voter registration application shall be in the form approved by the |
| 18 | Federal Election Commission or by the Secretary of State. The application |
| 19 | form approved by the Secretary shall include: |
| 20 | * * * |

| 1 | (2) The voter's oath and a space for a person administering the voter's |
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| 2 | oath to another to execute the written notification required by section 2124 of |
| 3 | this title. |
| 4 | * * * |
| 5 | (4) The following statements: |
| 6 | (A) "If you were provided with this form when you applied for, or |
| 7 | renewed, a motor vehicle driver's license or were provided with this |
| 8 | application form by a voter registration agency, you may decline to register. If |
| 9 | you decline to register, your failure to register will remain confidential and will |
| 10 | be used only for voter registration purposes." |
| 11 | (B) "If you are submitting this application in connection with a motor |
| 12 | vehicle driver's license application, or renewal, or through a voter registration |
| 13 | agency, the office through which you submitted this application will remain |
| 14 | confidential and will be used only for voter registration purposes." |
| 15 | (5) The following statement on applications provided by the Department |
| 16 | of Motor Vehicles: "Keep this receipt and take it to the polls when you go to |
| 17 | vote. This is proof you submitted an application for registration." [Repealed.] |
| 18 | Sec. 3. 17 V.S.A. § 2124 is amended to read: |
| 19 | § 2124. VOTER'S OATH OR AFFIRMATION; HOW ADMINISTERED; |
| 20 | APPLICATION |
| 21 | * * * |

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| 1 | (b) A person who administers the voter's oath or affirmation to another |
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| 2 | shall forthwith sign the appropriate place on the application or sign some other |
| 3 | written notification giving the person's name and the date the oath or |
| 4 | affirmation was administered. [Repealed.] |
| 5 | (c) At a minimum, the town clerk shall keep the completed applications for |
| 6 | addition to the checklist, or an electronic copy thereof, through the end of the |
| 7 | general election cycle that follows the one in which the application was |
| 8 | received. If the written notification that a person has taken the oath or |
| 9 | affirmation is submitted separately from the application, it shall be filed along |
| 10 | with the application. The town clerk shall verify, upon request, that a voter has |
| 11 | been given the oath or affirmation. |
| 12 | Sec. 4. 17 V.S.A. § 2144a is amended to read: |
| 13 | § 2144a. REGISTRATION |
| 14 | A person who desires to register to vote may apply in any of the following |
| 15 | ways: |
| 16 | (1) Simultaneously with his or her application for, or renewal of, a |
| 17 | motor vehicle driver's license or nondriver identification card as provided in |
| 18 | section 2145a of this chapter. |

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| 1 | Sec. 5. 23 V.S.A. § 603(a)(4) is added to read: |
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| 2 | (4) Any new or renewal application form shall provide for and request |
| 3 | the information required in 17 V.S.A. § 2145a. |
| 4 | Sec. 6. EFFECTIVE DATE |
| 5 | This act shall take effect on July 1, 2017. |
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| 9 | (Committee vote:) |
| 10 | |
| 11 | Representative |
| 12 | FOR THE COMMITTEE |