

1 S.138

2 Senator Bray moves that the report of the Committee on Natural Resources  
3 and Energy be amended by striking out Sec. 33 and inserting in lieu thereof a  
4 new Sec. 33 to read:

5 Sec. 33. ACT 250; IMPLEMENTATION OF SETTLEMENT PATTERNS

6 CRITERION

7 (a) The General Assembly finds that:

8 (1) 2014 Acts and Resolves No. 147, Sec. 2 amended 10 V.S.A.

9 § 6086(a)(9)(L) (Criterion 9L) to become a settlement patterns criterion. The  
10 purpose of the amendment was to guide and accomplish coordinated, efficient,  
11 and economic development in the State that is consistent with Vermont's  
12 historic settlement pattern of compact centers separated by rural countryside.

13 (2) Effective on October 17, 2014, the Natural Resources Board (NRB)  
14 adopted a procedure to implement Criterion 9L (the Criterion 9L Procedure).

15 (b) The General Assembly determines that additional opportunity for  
16 public comment on the Criterion 9L Procedure, as well as additional education  
17 and improved guidance, would be beneficial in implementing the criterion.

18 (1) The NRB shall review the Criterion 9L Procedure in full  
19 collaboration with the Agency of Commerce and Community Development  
20 (ACCD) and the Agency of Natural Resources (ANR).

1           (A) As part of this review, the NRB shall solicit input from affected  
2 parties and the public, including planners, developers, municipalities,  
3 environmental advocacy organizations, regional planning commissions,  
4 regional development corporations, and business advocacy organizations such  
5 as State and regional chambers of commerce.

6           (B) Based on this review, the NRB shall adopt revisions in the form  
7 of a procedure under 3 V.S.A. chapter 25.

8           (2) ACCD shall work with the NRB and ANR to develop outreach  
9 material on Criterion 9L, including illustrative examples of appropriate  
10 development design, and implement a training plan on the criterion for local  
11 elected officials, municipal boards, State and regional organizations and  
12 associations, environmental groups, consultants, and developers.