

**Sunset Advisory Commission
Board and Commission Review**

The Commission reviews every State board and commission and takes testimony regarding whether each board or commission should continue to operate or be eliminated and whether the powers and duties of any board or commission should be revised. Each board and commission has the burden of justifying its continued operation.

The Commission also reviews whether members of a board or commission should be entitled to a per diem and, if so, the amount of that per diem.

In testifying before the Commission, you should be able to provide the following information:

1. In general, how often does the board and commission meet? Provide specific information on how often the board or commission has met in the past two fiscal years.

Rural Rehabilitation Corporation has not met since May 4, 2006.

2. Provide the names of members of the board or commission, their term length and expiration, their appointing authority, and the amount of any per diem they receive.

Last members of the Rural Rehabilitation Corporation were William Sorrell, Jeb Spaulding, Leon Graves, Leo O'Brien and Gordon Booth and then Secretary Roger Albee

There were no per diems.

3. Provide an overview of the board or commission's purpose.

The purpose of the board was to support Agriculture using funding through the Treasurer's office. The last use of the Rehabilitation Corporation was to guarantee a loan for a young dairy farmer in an incubator pilot project at VTC from 2006 through 2008. The young farmer successfully paid off the loan and the guarantee was not activated.

4. Is that purpose still needed? What would happen if the board or commission no longer fulfilled that purpose?

Funding no longer exists from the Treasurer's Office and the Rural Rehabilitation Corporation is no longer needed. The Vermont Economic Development Authority has taken over the role of lending to VT Farmers.

5. How well is the board or commission performing in executing that purpose? What evidence can you provide to substantiate that performance?

The board has not met since 2006. There is no report on performance.

6. If the purpose is still needed, can State government be more effective and efficient if the purpose was executed in a different manner?

The Rehabilitation Corporation is no longer needed.

7. If the purpose is still needed, do any of your board or commission's functions overlap or duplicate those of another State board or commission or federal or State agency? If so, is your board or commission still the best entity to fulfill the purpose?

Vermont Economic Development Authority fills this role now.

8. Does the board or commission's enabling law continue to correctly reflect the purpose and activities of the board or commission?

Part of statute could be struck.

10 V.S.A. § 272)

(4) "Vermont Rehabilitation Corporation" means the nonprofit quasi-public corporation for which articles of association have been filed with the secretary of state on April 26, 1935. (Added 1985, No. 81, § 1; amended 1993, No. 89, § 3(a), eff. June 15, 1993.)

9. Provide a list of the board and commission's last fiscal year expenditures including staffing costs. How are these funded?

Unknown

10. Is the board or commission required by law to prepare any reports or studies for the Legislature, the Governor, or any State agency or officer? If so, have those reports or studies been produced? Does the board or commission have ongoing reporting obligations?

No reports are required.