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STATE OF VERMONT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL
RESOURCES, FISH, AND WILDLIFE

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REP. THOMAS TEREZINI

February 15, 2018

Chair Toll
And the House Appropriations Committee

Dear Chair Toll

The undersigned members of the House Natural Resources Fish and Wildlife Committee respectfully request that the House Appropriations Committee includes \$100,000 in the FY2019 budget for the study requested by the Governor's Climate Action Commission on 29 December 2017 by a vote of 20-1.

The Commission recommended that the Joint Fiscal Office contract for the study in order to be able to base any legislative action on good information.

Below is wording from the Commission:

In preliminary recommendations dated December 29, 2017, the Vermont Climate Action Commission created by the Governor through Executive Order No. 12-17, published as No. 10-42 states in part:

"To ensure global temperature rise remains no greater than two degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, the entire global population will need to transform its relationship with energy use. A wide spectrum of policy mechanisms that aim to enable those choices and reduce GHG [greenhouse gas] emissions have been investigated and implemented by nations, regions, states and provinces around the world..."

"Whether any of those policy approaches would effectively reduce GHG emissions in Vermont while spurring economic innovation, making Vermont more affordable, creating jobs, protecting the most vulnerable, and ensuring all Vermonters have the ability to be part of the climate solution remains an open question. To answer that question, the Commission recommends an independent, non-partisan evaluation of the full spectrum of regulatory and market-based approaches to reducing GHG, including carbon pricing mechanisms, carbon market opportunities, and regulatory control policies."

"The commission recommends that Legislature's Joint Fiscal Office contract that study with a well-respected, independent research organization to provide Vermonters with the information

needed to make informed decisions. . . The Commission offers to provide a small working group made of a subset of its members to assist in the scoping of the study, if desired."

Thank you for your consideration of this request for \$100,000 to complete this study as presented in H.763.

Sincerely,

David L. Deen

Nancy M. Sullivan

Thomas J. Squirre

John J. McCullough

Steve Blye

Carol Ode