

1 H.454

2 Introduced by Representatives Cina of Burlington, Buckholz of Hartford,
3 Burke of Brattleboro, Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown
4 Springs, Colburn of Burlington, Connor of Fairfield, Gonzalez
5 of Winooski, McCullough of Williston, O'Sullivan of
6 Burlington, and Weed of Enosburgh

7 Referred to Committee on

8 Date:

9 Subject: Study committee; transition to a zero waste economy

10 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to establish a
11 study committee to study how Vermont can begin to transition to a zero waste
12 economy.

13 An act relating to the Zero Waste Economy Study Committee

14 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

15 Sec. 1. STUDY COMMITTEE; REPORT

16 (a) Creation. There is created the Zero Waste Economy Study Committee
17 to study how Vermont can begin to transition to a zero waste economy.

18 (b) Membership. The Study Committee shall be composed of the following
19 six members:

1 (1) two current members of the House of Representatives, not both from
2 the same political party, who shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House;

3 (2) two current members of the Senate, not both from the same political
4 party, who shall be appointed by the Committee on Committees;

5 (3) the Secretary of Commerce and Community Development or
6 designee; and

7 (4) the Secretary of Natural Resources or designee.

8 (c) Powers and duties. The Study Committee shall study how Vermont can
9 begin to transition to a zero waste economy, including the following issues:

10 (1) how to provide incentives for the colocation of businesses and
11 manufacturers in designated areas to:

12 (A) share resources;

13 (B) reduce waste; and

14 (C) allow more productive use of waste and by-products;

15 (2) increase the productivity of natural resources used in the
16 manufacturing process; and

17 (3) encourage the adoption of biologically inspired production processes
18 and materials.

19 (d) Assistance. The Study Committee shall have the administrative,
20 technical, and legal assistance of the Office of Legislative Council and the
21 Joint Fiscal Office.

1 (e) Report. On or before January 15, 2018, the Study Committee shall
2 report to the House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development and
3 the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General
4 Affairs with its findings and any recommendations for legislative action.

5 (f) Meetings.

6 (1) The Secretary of Commerce and Community Development shall call
7 the first meeting of the Study Committee to occur on or before August 1, 2017.

8 (2) The Committee shall select a chair from among its members at the
9 first meeting.

10 (3) A majority of the membership shall constitute a quorum.

11 (4) The Study Committee shall cease to exist on January 15, 2018.

12 (g) Reimbursement. For attendance at meetings during adjournment of the
13 General Assembly, legislative members of the Study Committee shall be
14 entitled to per diem compensation and reimbursement of expenses pursuant to
15 2 V.S.A. § 406 for no more than ten meetings.

16 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

17 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.