Clean Water Funding Bill Dr req 17-0230 – draft 3.3 2/21/17

Existing Language

* * * Wetland Restoration; Conserved Lands * * *

Sec. 8. 10 V.S.A. § 325c is added to read:

§ 325c. WETLANDS RESTORATION; ACQUIRED LANDS

When the Board expends monies from the Fund established under section 312 of this title to acquire agricultural land, wildlife habitat, natural resources, or other land, areas, or property under this chapter for conservation, the Board shall require wetlands that have been farmed or otherwise converted to be restored to a natural condition where future development or agricultural use is limited. As used in this section, wetlands shall have the same meaning as set forth in section 902 of this title.

VHCB Proposed Replacement Language for Section 8

* * * Wetland Restoration; Conserved Lands * * *

Sec. 8. 10 V.S.A. \S 325c is added to read:

§ 325c. WETLANDS RESTORATION; ACQUIRED LANDS

When the Board expends monies from the Fund established under section 312 of this title to acquire agricultural land, wildlife habitat, natural resources, or other land, areas, or property under this chapter for conservation, the Board shall work with the Agency of Natural Resources and other agencies and organizations to identify opportunities for wetland restoration, floodplains, woody vegetated buffers, special easement protections and management practices. The Board will share data related to these activities with the Agency of Natural Resources for inclusion in TMDL reporting to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The Board shall include these activities and identify additional opportunities or obstacles to wetland restoration and other natural resources in its annual report to the General Assembly.