1	TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:
2	The Committee on Finance to which was referred Senate Bill No. 34
3	entitled "An act relating to cross-promoting development incentives and State
4	policy goals" respectfully reports that it has considered the same and
5	recommends that the bill be amended as recommended by the Committee on
6	Agriculture with the following amendments thereto:
7	First: By striking out Sec. 5 in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the
8	following:
9	Sec. 5. PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD; REPORT ON INCREASED
10	PARTICPATION IN SELF-ADMINISTRATION OF ENERGY
11	EFFICIENCY
12	(a) On or before December 1, 2017, the Public Service Board shall require
13	all entities that are appointed under 30 V.S.A. § 209 to implement and
14	administer gas and electric energy efficiency and conservation programs to
15	submit to the Board a plan for increasing participation in self administration of
16	energy efficiency under 30 V.S.A. § 209(d)(3) by businesses located in small
17	towns of the rural areas of the State. A plan submitted by appointed entities
18	shall recommend:
19	(1) measures or criteria to incentivize increased participation in self-
20	administration of energy efficiency;

1	(2) whether any incentives to increase participation in self-
2	administration should be included as part of the demand resources plan for
3	entities appointed to implement and administer gas and electric energy
4	efficiency and conservation programs; and
5	(3) how the entities appointed to implement and administer gas and
6	electric energy efficiency and conservation programs shall report in an annual
7	plan or other report participation rates in self-administration of energy
8	efficiency by businesses located in the small towns of rural areas of the State.
9	(b) On or before January 15, 2018, the Public Service Board shall submit to
10	the Senate Committees on Finance, Natural Resources and Energy, and
11	Agriculture and the House Committees on Ways and Means, Natural
12	Resources, Fish and Wildlife, and Agriculture and Forestry the plans submitted
13	to the Board under subsection (a) of this section and any recommendations,
14	including legislative changes, by the Board to implement the submitted plans.
15	(c) As used in this section:
16	(1) "Rural area" means a county of the State designated as "rural" or
17	"mostly rural" by the U.S. Census Bureau in its most recent decennial census.
18	(2) "Small town" means a town in a rural area of the State with a
19	population of less than 5,000 at the date of the most recent U.S. Census Bureau
20	decennial census.

1	Second: By striking out Sec. 6 in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof
2	the following:
3	Sec. 6. 3 V.S.A. § 2822(i) is amended to read:
4	(i)(1) The Secretary shall not process an application for which the
5	applicable fee has not been paid unless the Secretary specifies that the fee may
6	be paid at a different time or unless the person applying for the permit is
7	exempt from the permit fee requirements pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 710.
8	Municipalities shall be exempt from the payment of fees under this section
9	except for those fees prescribed in subdivisions (j)(1), (7), (8), (14), and (15) of
10	this section for which a municipality may recover its costs by charging a user
11	fee to those who use the permitted services. Municipalities shall pay fees
12	prescribed in subdivisions (j)(2), (10), (11), (12), and (26), except that a
13	municipality shall also be exempt from those fees for stormwater systems
14	prescribed in subdivision (j)(2)(A)(iii)(I), (II), or (IV) and (j)(2)(B)(iv)(I), (II),
15	or (V) of this section for which a municipality has assumed full legal
16	responsibility under 10 V.S.A. § 1264.
17	(2) An air contaminant source shall be exempt from the fees required
18	under subdivisions (j)(1)(A) and (B) when the source of the emissions is the
19	anaerobic digestion of agricultural products, agricultural by-products,
20	agricultural waste, or food waste.

1	Third: By striking out Sec. 8 in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the
2	following:
3	Sec. 8. 32 V.S.A. § 9741 is amended to read:
4	§ 9741. SALES NOT COVERED
5	Retail sales and use of the following shall be exempt from the tax on retail
6	sales imposed under section 9771 of this title and the use tax imposed under
7	section 9773 of this title.
8	* * *
9	(51) The following machinery, including repair parts, used for timber
10	cutting, removal, and processing of timber or other solid wood forest products
11	intended to be sold ultimately at retail: skidders with grapple and cable, feller
12	bunchers, cut to length processors, forwarders, delimbers, loader slashers, log
13	loaders, whole tree chippers, stationary screening systems, and firewood
14	processors, elevators, and screens. The Department of Taxes shall publish
15	guidance relating to the application of this exemption.
16	Fourth: By striking out Sec. 10 in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof
17	the following:
18	Sec. 10. REPEALS
19	The following are repealed on July 1, 2023:
20	(1) 10 V.S.A. chapter 15, subchapter 4 (Rural Economic Development
21	Team);

1	(2) 3 V.S.A. § 2822(i)(2) (anaerobic digesters; air contaminant fee); and		
2	(3) 6 V.S.A. § 4828(d) (phosphorus removal grant criteria).		
3			
4			
5			
6	(Committee vote:)		
7			
8		Senator	
9		FOR THE COMMITTEE	