

By Senator _____,

Senate resolution disapproving of Executive Order 05-17 combining the Agency of Commerce and Community Development and the Department of Labor.

Whereas, on January 15, 2017, the Governor signed Executive Order 05-17 providing for the creation of an “Agency of Economic Opportunity by reorganizing the Agency of Commerce and Community Development and the Department of Labor,” and

Whereas, according to the Executive Order, effective April 17, 2017, “the Agency of Economic Opportunity shall administer” many of the “programs formerly administered by the Department of Labor,” including oversight over and enforcement of wage and hour laws, employment practices, the workers’ compensation program, and the unemployment compensation law, and

Whereas, the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs has taken testimony and public comment concerning this Executive Order, and

Whereas, the Senate supports the Governor’s efforts to reorganize State government to improve efficiency, create a coherent and complete system of workforce training and development, better meet employer demands where there are workforce shortages, and increase economic opportunity, and

Whereas, the Senate looks forward to working closely with Governor Scott to achieve our shared objectives, and

Whereas, the Senate wishes to ensure that the Governor's reorganization is effective, fully achieves these goals, and does not lead to unintended consequences, and

Whereas, the Senate has concerns that having one agency fulfill the dual roles of both promoting and regulating business may not be efficient and may lead to conflicts between these two missions, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate:

That the Senate of the State of Vermont disapproves of Executive Order 05-17, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Senate respectfully requests that the Governor present [or work closely with the Senate to develop?] proposed legislation to achieve the objectives of reorganizing State government to improve efficiency, create a complete system of workforce training and development, address workforce shortages, and increase economic opportunity for all Vermonters.