

1 S.260

2 Senator Bray moves that the Senate concur in the House proposal of
3 amendment with a further proposal of amendment of striking out all after the
4 enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

5 * * * Clean Water Board * * *

6 Sec. 1. 10 V.S.A. § 1389 is amended to read:

7 § 1389. CLEAN WATER ~~FUND~~ BOARD

8 (a) Creation.

9 (1) There is created the Clean Water ~~Fund~~ Board ~~which~~ that shall:

10 (A) be responsible and accountable for planning, coordinating, and
11 financing of the remediation, improvement, and protection of the quality of
12 State waters;

13 (B) recommend to the Secretary of Administration expenditures;

14 (i) appropriations from the Clean Water Fund; and

15 (ii) clean water projects to be funded by capital appropriations.

16 (2) The Clean Water ~~Fund~~ Board shall be attached to the Agency of
17 Administration for administrative purposes.

18 (b) Organization of the Board. The Clean Water ~~Fund~~ Board shall be
19 composed of:

20 (1) the Secretary of Administration or designee;

21 (2) the Secretary of Natural Resources or designee;

1 (3) the Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets or designee;

2 (4) the Secretary of Commerce and Community Development or
3 designee;

4 (5) the Secretary of Transportation or designee; and

5 (6) four members of the public, who are not legislators, with expertise in
6 one or more of the following subject matters: public management, civil
7 engineering, agriculture, ecology, wetlands, stormwater system management,
8 forestry, transportation, law, banking, finance, and investment, to be appointed
9 by the Governor.

10 (c) Officers; committees; rules; compensation; term.

11 (1) The Clean Water Fund Board shall annually elect a chair from its
12 members Secretary of Administration shall serve as the Chair of the Board.

13 The Clean Water Fund Board may elect additional officers from its members,
14 establish committees or subcommittees, and adopt procedural rules as
15 necessary and appropriate to perform its work.

16 (2) Members of the Board who are not employees of the State of
17 Vermont and who are not otherwise compensated or reimbursed for their
18 attendance shall be entitled to per diem compensation and reimbursement of
19 expenses pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 1010 paid from the budget of the Agency of
20 Administration for attendance of meetings of the Board.

1 (3) Members who are appointed to the Clean Water Board shall be
2 appointed for terms of four years, except initial appointments shall be made
3 such that the member appointed by the Speaker shall be appointed for a term of
4 two years. Vacancies on the Board shall be filled for the remaining period of
5 the term in the same manner as initial appointments.

6 (d) Powers and duties of the Clean Water ~~Fund~~ Board. The Clean Water
7 ~~Fund~~ Board shall have the following powers and authority:

8 (1) The Clean Water ~~Fund~~ Board shall recommend to the Secretary of
9 Administration the appropriate allocation of funds from the Clean Water ~~Fund~~
10 for the purposes of developing the State budget required to be submitted to the
11 General Assembly under 32 V.S.A. § 306. All recommendations from the
12 Board should be intended to achieve the greatest water quality gain for the
13 investment. The recommendations of the Clean Water Board shall be open to
14 inspection and copying under the Public Records Act, and the Clean Water
15 Board shall submit to the Senate Committees on Appropriations, on Finance,
16 on Agriculture, and on Natural Resources and Energy and the House
17 Committees on Appropriations, on Ways and Means, on Agriculture and
18 Forestry, and on Natural Resources, Fish, and Wildlife a copy of any
19 recommendations provided to the Governor.

20 (2) The Clean Water ~~Fund~~ Board may pursue and accept grants, gifts,
21 donations, or other funding from any public or private source and may

1 administer such grants, gifts, donations, or funding consistent with the terms of
2 the grant, gift, or donation.

3 (3) The Clean Water ~~Fund~~ Board shall:

4 (A) establish a process by which watershed organizations, State
5 agencies, and other interested parties may propose water quality projects or
6 programs for financing from the Clean Water Fund;

7 (B) develop an annual revenue estimate and proposed budget for the
8 Clean Water Fund;

9 (C) establish measures for determining progress and effectiveness of
10 expenditures for clean water restoration efforts;

11 (D) issue the annual Clean Water Investment Report required under
12 section 1389a of this title; ~~and~~

13 (E) solicit, consult with, and accept public comment from
14 organizations interested in improving water quality in Vermont regarding
15 recommendations under this subsection (d) for the allocation of funds from the
16 Clean Water Fund; and

17 (F) establish a process under which a watershed organization, State
18 agency, or other interested party may propose that a water quality project or
19 program identified in a watershed basin plan receive funding from the Clean
20 Water Fund.

21 (e) Priorities.

1 (1) In making recommendations under subsection (d) of this section
2 regarding the appropriate allocation of funds from the Clean Water Fund, the
3 Board shall prioritize:

4 (A) funding to programs and projects that address sources of water
5 pollution in waters listed as impaired on the list of waters established by
6 33 U.S.C. § 1313(d);

7 (B) funding to projects that address sources of water pollution
8 identified as a significant contributor of water quality pollution, including
9 financial assistance to grant recipients at the initiation of a funded project;

10 (C) funding to programs or projects that address or repair riparian
11 conditions that increase the risk of flooding or pose a threat to life or property;

12 (D) assistance required for State and municipal compliance with
13 stormwater requirements for highways and roads;

14 (E) funding for education and outreach regarding the implementation
15 of water quality requirements, including funding for education, outreach,
16 demonstration, and access to tools for the implementation of the Acceptable
17 Management Practices for Maintaining Water Quality on Logging Jobs in
18 Vermont, as adopted by the Commissioner of Forests, Parks and Recreation;

19 (F) funding for innovative or alternative technologies or practices
20 designed to improve water quality or reduce sources of pollution to surface
21 waters, including funding for innovative nutrient removal technologies and

1 community-based methane digesters that utilize manure, wastewater, and food
2 residuals to produce energy;

3 (G) funding to purchase agricultural land in order to take that land
4 out of practice when the State water quality requirements cannot be remediated
5 through agricultural Best Management Practices; ~~and~~

6 (H) funding to municipalities for the establishment and operation of
7 stormwater utilities; and

8 (I) investment in watershed basin planning, water quality project
9 identification screening, water quality project evaluation, and conceptual plan
10 development of water quality projects.

11 (2) In developing its recommendations under subsection (d) of this
12 section regarding the appropriate allocation of funds from the Clean Water
13 Fund, the Clean Water Fund Board shall, during the first three years of its
14 existence and within the priorities established under subdivision (1) of this
15 subsection (e), prioritize awards or assistance to municipalities for municipal
16 compliance with water quality requirements; and to municipalities for the
17 establishment and operation of stormwater utilities.

18 (3) In developing its recommendations under subsection (d) of this
19 section regarding the appropriate allocation of funds from the Clean Water
20 Fund, the Board shall, after satisfaction of the priorities established under
21 subdivision (1) of this subsection (e), attempt to provide ~~for equitable~~

1 ~~apportionment of awards from the Fund to all regions of the State and for~~
2 ~~control of all sources of point and non-point sources of pollution in the State~~
3 investment in all watersheds of the State based on the needs identified in
4 watershed basin plans.

5 (f) Assistance. The Clean Water ~~Fund~~ Board shall have the administrative,
6 technical, and legal assistance of the Agency of Administration, the Agency of
7 Natural Resources, the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets, the Agency
8 of Transportation, and the Agency of Commerce and Community
9 Development for those issues or services within the jurisdiction of the
10 respective agency. The cost of the services provided by agency staff shall be
11 paid from the budget of the agency providing the staff services.

12 Sec. 2. 10 V.S.A. § 1389a is amended to read:

13 (a) Beginning on January 15, 2017, and annually thereafter, the Secretary
14 of Administration shall publish the Clean Water Investment Report. The
15 Report shall summarize all investments, including their cost-effectiveness,
16 made by the Clean Water ~~Fund~~ Board and other State agencies for clean water
17 restoration over the prior calendar year. The Report shall include expenditures
18 from the Clean Water Fund, the General Fund, the Transportation Fund, and
19 any other State expenditures for clean water restoration, regardless of funding
20 source.

1 * * * Coordinated Water Quality Grants; Performance Grants * * *

2 Sec. 3. COORDINATED WATER QUALITY GRANTS

3 The Secretary of Natural Resources, the Secretary of Agriculture, Food and
4 Markets, and the Secretary of Transportation shall coordinate prior to awarding
5 water quality grants or funding in order to maximize the water quality benefit
6 or impact of funded projects in a watershed planning basin. When grants are
7 issued, the Secretary of Natural Resources, the Secretary of Agriculture, Food
8 and Markets, and the Secretary of Transportation shall, when allowed by law,
9 authorize funds or identify other funding opportunities that may be used to
10 support capacity to implement projects in the watershed basin.

11 Sec. 4. 10 V.S.A. § 1253(d) is amended to read:

12 (d)(1) Through the process of basin planning, the Secretary shall determine
13 what degree of water quality and classification should be obtained and
14 maintained for those waters not classified by the Board before 1981 following
15 the procedures in sections 1254 and 1258 of this title. Those waters shall be
16 classified in the public interest. The Secretary shall prepare and maintain an
17 overall surface water management plan to assure that the State water quality
18 standards are met in all State waters. The surface water management plan shall
19 include a schedule for updating the basin plans. The Secretary, in consultation
20 with regional planning commissions and the Natural Resources Conservation
21 Council, shall revise all 15 basin plans and update the basin plans on a five-

1 year rotating basis. On or before January 15 of each year, the Secretary shall
2 report to the House Committees on Agriculture and Forestry, on Natural
3 Resources ~~and Energy, and on Fish, Wildlife and Water Resources, Fish, and~~
4 Wildlife, and to the Senate Committees on Agriculture and on Natural
5 Resources and Energy regarding the progress made and difficulties
6 encountered in revising basin plans. The report shall include a summary of
7 basin planning activities in the previous calendar year, a schedule for the
8 production of basin plans in the subsequent calendar year, and a summary of
9 actions to be taken over the subsequent three years. The provisions of
10 2 V.S.A. § 20(d) (expiration of required reports) shall not apply to the report to
11 be made under this subsection.

12 (2) In developing a basin plan under this subsection, the Secretary shall:

13 (A) identify waters that should be reclassified outstanding resource
14 waters or that should have one or more uses reclassified under section 1252 of
15 this title;

16 (B) identify wetlands that should be reclassified as Class I wetlands;

17 (C) identify projects or activities within a basin that will result in the
18 protection and enhancement of water quality;

19 (D) assure that municipal officials, citizens, watershed groups, and
20 other interested groups and individuals are involved in the basin planning
21 process;

1 (E) assure regional and local input in State water quality policy
2 development and planning processes;

3 (F) provide education to municipal officials and citizens regarding
4 the basin planning process;

5 (G) develop, in consultation with the regional planning commission,
6 an analysis and formal recommendation on conformance with the goals and
7 objectives of applicable regional plans;

8 (H) provide for public notice of a draft basin plan; and

9 (I) provide for the opportunity of public comment on a draft
10 basin plan.

11 (3) The Secretary shall, contingent upon the availability of funding,
12 ~~contract with a regional planning commission or~~ negotiate and issue
13 performance grants to the Vermont Association of Planning and Development
14 Agencies or its designee and the Natural Resources Conservation Council or its
15 designee to assist in or to produce a basin plan under the schedule set forth in
16 subdivision (1) of this subsection in a manner consistent with the authority of
17 regional planning commissions under 24 V.S.A. chapter 117 and the authority
18 of the natural resources conservation districts under chapter 31 of this title.

19 ~~When contracting~~ negotiating a scope of work with a regional planning
20 ~~commission or~~ the Vermont Association of Planning and Development
21 Agencies or its designee and the Natural Resources Conservation Council or its

1 designee to assist in or produce a basin plan, the Secretary may require the
2 ~~regional planning commission~~ Vermont Association of Planning and
3 Development Agencies or the Natural Resources Conservation Council to:

4 (A) conduct any of the activities required under subdivision (2) of
5 this subsection (d);

6 (B) provide technical assistance and data collection activities to
7 inform municipal officials and the State in making water quality investment
8 decisions;

9 (C) coordinate municipal planning and adoption or implementation of
10 municipal development regulations ~~to~~ better to meet State water quality
11 policies and investment priorities; or

12 (D) assist the Secretary in implementing a project evaluation process
13 to prioritize water quality improvement projects within the region to assure
14 ~~cost effective~~ cost-effective use of State and federal funds.

15 * * * Lakes in Crisis * * *

16 Sec. 5. 10 V.S.A. chapter 47, subchapter 2A is added to read:

17 Subchapter 2A. Lake in Crisis

18 § 1310. DESIGNATION OF LAKE IN CRISIS

19 (a) The Secretary of Natural Resources (Secretary) shall review whether a
20 lake in the State should be designated as a lake in crisis upon the Secretary's

1 own motion or upon petition of 15 or more persons or a selectboard of a
2 municipality in which the lake or a portion of the lake is located.

3 (b) The Secretary shall designate a lake as a lake in crisis if, after review
4 under subsection (a) of this section, the Secretary determines that:

5 (1) the lake or segments of the lake have been listed as impaired;

6 (2) the condition of the lake will cause:

7 (A) a potential harm to the public health; and

8 (B) a risk of damage to the environment or natural resources; and

9 (3) a municipality in which the lake or a portion of the lake is located
10 has reduced the valuation of real property due to the condition of the lake.

11 § 1311. STATE RESPONSE TO A LAKE IN CRISIS

12 (a) Adoption of crisis response plan. When a lake is declared in crisis, the
13 Secretary shall within 90 days after the designation of the lake in crisis issue a
14 comprehensive crisis response plan for the management of the lake in crisis in
15 order to improve water quality in the lake or to mitigate or eliminate the
16 potential harm to public health or the risk of damages to the environment or
17 natural resources. The Secretary shall coordinate with the Secretary of
18 Agriculture, Food and Markets and the Secretary of Transportation in the
19 development of the crisis response plan. The crisis response plan may require
20 implementation of one or both of the following in the watershed of the lake in
21 crisis:

1 (1) water quality requirements necessary to address specific harms to
2 public health or risks to the environment or natural resources; or

3 (2) implementation of or compliance with existing water quality
4 requirements under one or more of the following:

5 (A) water quality requirements under chapter 47 of this title,
6 including requiring a property owner to obtain a permit or implement best
7 management practices for the discharge of stormwater runoff from any size of
8 impervious surfaces if the Secretary determines that the treatment of the
9 discharge of stormwater runoff is necessary to reduce the adverse impacts to
10 water quality of the discharge or stormwater on the lake in crisis;

11 (B) agricultural water quality requirements under 6 V.S.A.
12 chapter 215, including best management practices under 6 V.S.A. § 4810 to
13 reduce runoff from the farm; or

14 (C) water quality requirements adopted under section 1264 of this
15 section for stormwater runoff from municipal or State roads.

16 (b) Public hearing. The Secretary shall hold at least one public hearing in
17 the watershed of the lake in crisis and shall provide an opportunity for public
18 notice and comment for a proposed lake in crisis response plan.

19 (c) Term of designation. A lake shall remain designated as in crisis under
20 this section until the Secretary determines that the lake no longer satisfies the
21 criteria for designation under subsection (b) of this section.

1 (d) Agency cooperation and services. All other State agencies shall
2 cooperate with the Secretary in responding to the lake in crisis, and the
3 Secretary shall be entitled to seek technical and scientific input or services
4 from the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets, the Agency of
5 Transportation, or other necessary State agencies.

6 § 1312. LAKE IN CRISIS ORDER

7 The Secretary, after consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture, Food
8 and Markets, may issue a lake in crisis order as an administrative order under
9 chapter 201 of this title to require a person to:

10 (1) take an action identified in the lake in crisis response plan;

11 (2) cease or remediate any acts, discharges, site conditions, or processes
12 contributing to the impairment of the lake in crisis;

13 (3) mitigate a significant contributor of a pollutant to the lake in
14 crisis; or

15 (4) conduct testing, sampling, monitoring, surveying, or other analytical
16 operations required to determine the nature, extent, duration, or severity of the
17 potential harm to the public health or a risk of damage to the environment or
18 natural resources.

19 § 1313. ASSISTANCE

20 (a) A person subject to a lake in crisis order shall be eligible for technical
21 and financial assistance from the Secretary to be paid from the Lake in Crisis

1 Response Program Fund. The Secretary shall adopt by procedure the process
2 for application for assistance under this section.

3 (b) State financial assistance awarded under this section shall be in the
4 form of a grant. An applicant for a State grant shall pay at least 35 percent of
5 the total eligible project cost. The dollar amount of a State grant shall be equal
6 to the total eligible project cost, less 35 percent of the total as paid by the
7 applicant, and less the amount of any federal assistance awarded.

8 (c) A grant awarded under this section shall comply with all terms and
9 conditions for the issuance of State grants.

10 § 1314. FUNDING OF STATE RESPONSE TO A LAKE IN CRISIS

11 (a) Initial response. Upon designation of a lake in crisis, the Secretary
12 may, for the purposes of the initial response to the lake in crisis, expend up to
13 \$50,000.00 appropriated to the Agency of Natural Resources from the Clean
14 Water Fund for authorized contingency spending.

15 (b) Long-term funding. Annually, the Secretary of Natural Resources shall
16 present to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations a multi-year
17 plan for the funding of all lakes designated in crisis under this subchapter.
18 Based on the multi-year plan, the Secretary of Administration annually shall
19 recommend to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations
20 recommended appropriations to the Lake in Crisis Response Program Fund for
21 the subsequent fiscal year.

1 § 1315. LAKE IN CRISIS RESPONSE PROGRAM FUND

2 (a) There is created a special fund known as the Lake in Crisis Response
3 Program Fund to be administered by the Secretary of Natural Resources. The
4 Fund shall consist of:

5 (1) funds that may be appropriated by the General Assembly; and

6 (2) other gifts, donations, or funds received from any source, public or
7 private, dedicated for deposit into the Fund.

8 (b) The Secretary shall use monies deposited in the Fund for the
9 Secretary's implementation of a crisis response plan for a lake in crisis and for
10 financial assistance under section 1313 of this title to persons subject to a lake
11 in crisis order.

12 (c) Notwithstanding the requirements of 32 V.S.A. § 588(3) and (4),
13 interest earned by the Fund and the balance of the Fund at the end of the fiscal
14 year shall be carried forward in the Fund and shall not revert to the General
15 Fund.

16 Sec. 6. LAKE CARMI; LAKE IN CRISIS

17 The General Assembly declares Lake Carmi as a lake in crisis under
18 10 V.S.A. chapter 47, subchapter 2A. The crisis response plan for Lake Carmi
19 shall include implementation of runoff controls.

1 Sec. 7. 10 V.S.A. § 8003(a) is amended to read:

2 (a) The Secretary may take action under this chapter to enforce the
3 following statutes and rules, permits, assurances, or orders implementing the
4 following statutes, and the Board may take such action with respect to
5 subdivision (10) of this subsection:

6 (1) 10 V.S.A. chapter 23, relating to air quality;

7 (2) 10 V.S.A. chapter 32, relating to flood hazard areas;

8 (3) 10 V.S.A. chapters 47 and 56, relating to water pollution control,
9 water quality standards, ~~and~~ public water supply, and lakes in crisis;

10 * * *

11 Sec. 8. 10 V.S.A. § 8503(a) is amended to read:

12 (a) This chapter shall govern all appeals of an act or decision of the
13 Secretary, excluding enforcement actions under chapters 201 and 211 of this
14 title and rulemaking, under the following authorities and under the rules
15 adopted under those authorities:

16 (1) The following provisions of this title:

17 (A) chapter 23 (air pollution control);

18 (B) chapter 50 (aquatic nuisance control);

19 (C) chapter 41 (regulation of stream flow);

20 (D) chapter 43 (dams);

21 (E) chapter 47 (water pollution control; lakes in crisis);

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* * * ANR Report on Future Farming Practices * * *

Sec. 9. AGENCY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND MARKETS
REPORT ON FARMING PRACTICES IN VERMONT

(a) The Nutrient Management Commission convened by the Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets as a requirement of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s approved implementation plan for the Lake Champlain total maximum daily load plan shall review whether and how to revise farming practices in Vermont in a manner that mitigates existing environmental impacts while maintaining economic viability. In conducting its review, the Commission shall consider whether and how to:

(1) revise farming practice to improve or build healthy soils;

(2) reduce agriculturally based pollution in areas of high pollution, stressed, or impaired waters;

(3) establish a carrying capacity or maximum number of livestock that the land used for nutrient application on a farm can support without contribution of nutrients to a water;

(4) provide financial and technical support to facilitate the transition by farms to less-polluting practices through one or more of the following:

(A) cover cropping;

(B) reduced tillage or no tillage;

- 1 (C) accelerated implementation of best management practices
2 (BMPs);
3 (D) evaluation of the effectiveness of using riparian buffers in excess
4 of 25 feet;
5 (E) increased use of direct manure injection;
6 (F) crop rotations to build soil health, including limits on the planting
7 of continuous corn;
8 (G) elimination or reduction of the use of herbicides in the
9 termination of cover crops; and
10 (H) diversification of dairy farming.

11 (b) On or before January 15, 2019, the Secretary of Agriculture, Food and
12 Markets shall submit to the Senate Committees on Natural Resources and
13 Energy and on Agriculture and to the House Committees on Natural
14 Resources, Fish, and Wildlife and on Agriculture and Forestry any
15 recommendation of the Nutrient Management Commission regarding any of
16 the farming practices or subject areas listed under subdivisions (a)(1)–(4) of
17 this section.

18 * * * Petroleum Cleanup Fund * * *

19 Sec. 10. 10 V.S.A. § 1941(b) is amended to read:

20 (b) The Secretary may authorize disbursements from the Fund for the
21 purpose of the cleanup and restoration of contaminated soil and groundwater

1 caused by releases of petroleum from underground storage tanks and
2 aboveground storage tanks, including air emissions for remedial actions, and
3 for compensation of third parties for injury and damage caused by a release.
4 This Fund shall be used for no other governmental purposes, nor shall any
5 portion of the Fund ever be available to borrow from by any branch of
6 government; it being the intent of the General Assembly that this Fund and its
7 increments shall remain intact and inviolate for the purposes set out in this
8 chapter. Disbursements under this section may be made only for uninsured
9 costs incurred after January 1, 1987 and for which a claim is made prior to
10 July 1, 2019 2029 and judged to be in conformance with prevailing industry
11 rates. This includes:

12 * * *

13 Sec. 11. 10 V.S.A. § 1942 is amended to read:

14 § 1942. PETROLEUM DISTRIBUTOR LICENSING FEE

15 (a) There is hereby established a licensing fee of one cent per gallon of
16 motor fuel sold by a distributor or dealer or used by a user in this State, ~~which~~
17 that will be assessed against every distributor, dealer, or user as defined in
18 23 V.S.A. chapters 27 and 28, and ~~which~~ that will be deposited into the
19 Petroleum Cleanup Fund established pursuant to subsection 1941(a) of this
20 title. The Secretary, in consultation with the Petroleum Cleanup Fund
21 Advisory Committee established pursuant to subsection 1941(e) of this title,

1 shall annually report to the General Assembly on the balance of the Motor Fuel
2 Account and shall make recommendations, if any, for changes to the program.
3 The Secretary shall also determine the unencumbered balance of the Motor
4 Fuel Account as of May 15 of each year, and if the balance is equal to or
5 greater than \$7,000,000.00, then the licensing fee shall not be assessed in the
6 upcoming fiscal year. The Secretary shall promptly notify all sellers assessing
7 this fee of the status of the fee for the upcoming fiscal year. This fee ~~will~~ shall
8 be paid in the same manner, at the same time, and subject to the same
9 restrictions or limitations as the tax on motor fuels. The fee ~~will~~ shall be
10 collected by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles and deposited into the
11 Petroleum Cleanup Fund. This fee requirement shall terminate on April 1,
12 ~~2021~~ 2031.

13 (b) There is assessed a licensing fee of one cent per gallon for the bulk
14 retail sale of heating oil, kerosene, or other dyed diesel fuel sold in this State.
15 This fee shall be subject to the collection, administration, and enforcement
16 provisions of 32 V.S.A. chapter 233, and the fees collected under this
17 subsection by the Commissioner of Taxes shall be deposited into the
18 Petroleum Cleanup Fund established pursuant to subsection 1941(a) of this
19 title. The Secretary, in consultation with the Petroleum Cleanup Fund
20 Advisory Committee established pursuant to subsection 1941(e) of this title,
21 shall annually report to the General Assembly on the balance of the Heating

1 Fuel Account and shall make recommendations, if any, for changes to the
2 program. The Secretary shall also determine the unencumbered balance of the
3 Heating Fuel Account as of May 15 of each year, and if the balance is equal to
4 or greater than \$3,000,000.00, then the licensing fee shall not be assessed in
5 the upcoming fiscal year. The Secretary shall promptly notify all sellers
6 assessing this fee of the status of the fee for the upcoming fiscal year. This fee
7 provision shall terminate on April 1, ~~2024~~ 2031.

8 Sec. 12. 10 V.S.A. § 1943(c) is amended to read:

9 (c) This tank assessment shall terminate on July 1, ~~2019~~ 2029.

10 * * * Effective Date * * *

11 Sec. 13. EFFECTIVE DATE

12 This act shall take effect on passage.