

House Calendar

Wednesday, May 27, 2020

142nd DAY OF THE ADJOURNED SESSION

House Convenes at 11:00 A.M.

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ACTION CALENDAR

Unfinished Business of Tuesday, March 24 2020

Third Reading

H. 833

An act relating to the interbasin transfer of surface waters

Favorable with Amendment

H. 99

An act relating to trade in covered animal parts or products

Rep. McCullough of Williston, for the Committee on Natural Resources, Fish, and Wildlife, recommends the bill be amended by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 10 V.S.A. part 4, chapter 124 is added to read:

CHAPTER 124. TRADE IN COVERED ANIMAL PARTS OR PRODUCTS

§ 5501. DEFINITIONS

As used in this chapter:

(1) “Bona fide educational or scientific institution” means an institution that establishes through documentation that it is a tax-exempt institution under the Internal Revenue Service’s educational or scientific tax exemption.

(2) “Covered animal” means any species of:

- (A) Cheetah (Acinonyx jubatus);
- (B) Elephant (family Elephantidae);
- (C) Giraffe (Giraffa camelopardalis) ;
- (D) Hippopotamus (family Hippopotamidae);
- (E) Jaguar (Panthera onca);
- (F) Leopard (Panthera pardus);
- (G) Lion (Panthera leo);
- (H) Mammoth (genus Mammuthus);
- (I) Mastodon (genus Mammut);
- (J) Pangolin (family Manidae);

(K) Endangered ray, as listed by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora;

(L) Rhinoceros (family Rhinocerotidae);

(M) Sea turtle (family Chelonioidea);

(N) Endangered shark, as listed by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora;

(O) Tiger (Panthera tigris);

(P) Whale (families Balaenidae, Balaenopteridae, Cetotheriidae, Eschrichtiidae, Monodontidae, Physeteridae, Kogiidae, and Ziphiidae); or

(Q) The following primates: gorillas, bonobos, orangutans, gibbons, or chimpanzees.

(3) “Commissioner” means the Commissioner of Fish and Wildlife.

(4) “Covered animal part or product” means any item that contains, or is wholly or partially made from, a covered animal, including the meat or flesh of a covered animal sold as food.

(5) “Firearm” has the same meaning as in 13 V.S.A. § 4016(a)(3).

(6) “Sale” or “sell” means any act of selling, trading, or bartering for monetary or nonmonetary consideration, and includes any transfer of ownership that occurs in the course of a commercial transaction. “Sale” or “sell” shall not include a nonmonetary transfer of ownership by way of gift, donation, or bequest.

(7) “Secretary” means the Secretary of Natural Resources.

(8) “Total value” means either the fair market value or the actual price paid for a covered animal part or product, whichever is greater.

§ 5502. PROHIBITION

Except as provided in this chapter, notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, a person shall not purchase, sell, offer for sale, or possess with intent to sell any item that the person knows or should know is a covered animal part or product.

§ 5503. EXCEPTIONS

(a) The prohibition on the purchase, sale, offer for sale, or possession with intent to sell set forth in section 5502 of this title shall not apply:

(1) to employees or agents of the federal or State government undertaking any law enforcement activities pursuant to federal or State law or

any mandatory duties required by federal or State law;

(2) when the activity is expressly authorized by federal law;

(3) when the covered animal part or product is a fixed component of an antique that is not made wholly or partially from the covered animal part or product, provided that:

(A) the antique status is established by the owner or seller of the covered animal part or product with documentation providing evidence of the provenance of the covered animal part or product and showing the covered animal part or product to be not less than 100 years old; and

(B) the total weight of the covered animal part or product is less than 200 grams;

(4) when the covered animal part or product is a fixed component of a firearm; knife; or musical instrument, including string instruments and bows, wind and percussion instruments, and pianos, provided that the covered animal part or product was legally acquired and provided that the total weight of the covered animal part or product is less than 200 grams; or

(5) the activity is authorized under section 5504 of this title.

(b) Documentation evidencing reasonable provenance or the age of a covered animal part or product that may be purchased, sold, offered for sale, or possessed under subsection (a) of this section may include receipts of purchase, invoices, bills of sale, prior appraisals, auction catalogues, museum or art gallery exhibit catalogues, and the signed certification of an antique appraiser to the age of the covered animal part. The issuance of a false or fraudulent certification of the age of a covered animal part or product shall be subject to penalty under section 5506 of this title.

§ 5504. EDUCATIONAL OR SCIENTIFIC USE

The Secretary may permit, under terms and conditions as the Secretary may require, the purchase, sale, offer for sale, or possession with intent to sell of any covered animal part or product for educational or scientific purposes by a bona fide educational or scientific institution unless the activity is prohibited by federal law, and provided that the covered animal part or product was legally acquired.

§ 5505. PRESUMPTION OF POSSESSION WITH INTENT TO SELL

There shall be a rebuttable presumption that a person possesses a covered animal part or product with intent to sell when the part or product is possessed by a retail or wholesale establishment or other forum engaged in the business of buying or selling similar items. This rebuttable presumption shall not

preclude a court from finding intent to sell a covered animal part or product based on any other evidence that may serve to independently establish intent.

§ 5506. ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTIES; REFERRAL FOR CRIMINAL ENFORCEMENT

(a) The Secretary may assess the following administrative penalties for a violation of a provision of this chapter:

(1) For a first offense, a person shall be assessed an administrative penalty of not more than \$1,000.00 nor less than \$400.00.

(2) For a second offense or subsequent offense, a person shall be assessed an administrative penalty of not more than \$4,000.00 nor less than \$2,000.00.

(b) Instead of bringing an environmental enforcement action for a violation of this chapter or rules adopted under this chapter, the Secretary may refer a violation of this chapter to the Commissioner of Fish and Wildlife for criminal enforcement under section 4518 of this title.

§ 5507. SEIZURE.

A person convicted of violating a provision of this chapter shall forfeit to the Secretary the covered animal part or product that is the subject of the violation. The Secretary may:

(1) authorize that the covered animal part or product be maintained for educational or training purposes;

(2) authorize that the covered animal part or product be donated to a bona fide educational or scientific institution; or

(3) require that the covered animal part or product be destroyed.

§ 5508. RULES

The Secretary may adopt rules necessary to implement the requirements of this chapter.

Sec. 2. 10 V.S.A. § 4518 is amended to read:

§ 4518. BIG GAME VIOLATIONS; THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES; SUSPENSION; VIOLATIONS

Whoever violates a provision of this part or orders or rules of the Board relating to taking, possessing, transporting, buying, or selling of big game or, relating to threatened or endangered species, or relating to the trade in covered animal parts or products shall be fined not more than \$1,000.00 nor less than

\$400.00 or imprisoned for not more than 60 days, or both. Upon a second and all subsequent convictions or any conviction while under license suspension related to the requirements of part 4 of this title, the violator shall be fined not more than \$4,000.00 nor less than \$2,000.00 or imprisoned for not more than 60 days, or both.

Sec. 3. 10 V.S.A. § 8003 is amended to read:

§ 8003. APPLICABILITY

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

* * *

(27) 10 V.S.A. chapter 123, relating to threatened and endangered species;

* * *

(29) 10 V.S.A. § 1420, relating to abandoned vessels; and

(30) 3 V.S.A. § 2810, relating to interim environmental media standards; and

(31) 10 V.S.A. chapter 124, relating to the trade in covered animal parts or products.

Sec. 4. 10 V.S.A. § 8503 is amended to read:

§ 8503. APPLICABILITY

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

(1) The following provisions of this title:

* * *

(V) chapter 124 (trade in covered animal parts or products).

* * *

Sec. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on January 1, 2022.

(Committee Vote: 7-4-0)

H. 880

An act relating to Abenaki place names on State park signs

Rep. Howard of Rutland City, for the Committee on General, Housing, and Military Affairs, recommends the bill be amended by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 10 V.S.A. § 2613 is added to read:

§ 2613. ABENAKI PLACE NAMES IN STATE PARKS

(a) The Commissioner, before installing new signs or replacing existing signs in a State park, shall consult with the Vermont Commission on Native American Affairs to determine if there is an Abenaki name for any site within the park. If the Commission on Native American Affairs advises the Commissioner of an Abenaki name, the Abenaki name shall be displayed with the English name.

(b) On or before July 1, 2025, all existing signs in State parks with Abenaki names shall be replaced to include the Abenaki name.

(c) The Commissioner shall adopt rules establishing a procedure for selecting spelling of the place name if there are multiple spellings provided by the Commission on Native American Affairs.

Sec. 2. LIST OF PLACES WITH ABENAKI NAMES

On or before January 15, 2021, the Vermont Commission on Native American Affairs shall prepare a list of places and landmarks with Abenaki names. The list shall state if there are multiple names or spelling variations for a place. The Commission shall present the list to the Commissioner of Forests, Parks and Recreation in order to facilitate the construction of signs as required under 10 V.S.A. § 2613. The Commission shall also determine if there are sites outside of State parks with Abenaki names that require new signs.

Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.

(Committee Vote: 10-0-1)

Unfinished Business of Wednesday, March 25 2020

Committee Bill for Second Reading

H. 940

An act relating to animal cruelty investigation response and training.

(Rep. Bartholomew of Hartland will speak for the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry.)

Favorable with Amendment

H. 581

An act relating to the funding of the Department of Fish and Wildlife

Rep. Squirrell of Underhill, for the Committee on Natural Resources, Fish, and Wildlife, recommends the bill be amended by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. VERMONT WORKING GROUP ON WILDLIFE FUNDING;

REPORT

(a) Findings. The General Assembly finds that:

(1) It is the policy of the State that the Commissioner of Fish and Wildlife is required to safeguard the fish, wildlife, and fur-bearing animals of the State for all of the people of the State.

(2) The duties and responsibilities of the Department have grown since the days of focusing primarily on deer herd management and now include management of all wildlife species, including game and non-game; law enforcement; monitoring and restoring threatened and endangered species; habitat conservation; technical assistance; regulatory review; educational programs for hunters, youths, and teachers; public license sales; and management of grants issued or received by the Department.

(3) Since 1985, resident hunting license sales have decreased by 56 percent, resident trapping license sales have decreased by 51 percent, and resident fishing license sales have decreased by 25 percent.

(4) As a result of declining license and fee revenue, the General Assembly has increased and may need to further increase the amount of General Fund dollars annually appropriated to the Department of Fish and Wildlife.

(5) The need for increased funding of the Department will be heightened by the increased research, monitoring, and interventions required by new, contemporary, and well-documented challenges to all wildlife in Vermont, such as climate change, pollution, invasive species, and habitat degradation.

(6) To address declining license and permit fee revenue, the State must find stable, long-term revenue sources to pay for the costs of the Department of Fish and Wildlife conserving and managing fish, wildlife, and fur-bearing animals of the State and the natural systems upon which they depend for all of the people of the State.

(b) Creation of Working Group. Based on the findings set forth in subsection (a) of this section, there is created the Vermont Working Group on Wildlife Funding to identify potential sources of revenue to fund the Department of Fish and Wildlife for the next 20 years.

(c) Membership. The Vermont Working Group on Wildlife Funding shall be composed of the following members:

(1) three current members of the House of Representatives, who shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House and who shall include:

(A) the Chair of the Committee on Natural Resources, Fish, and Wildlife or designee;

(B) the Chair of the Committee on Appropriations or designee; and

(C) the Chair of the Committee on Government Operations or designee; and

(2) three current members of the Senate, who shall be appointed by the Committee on Committees and who shall include:

(A) the Chair of the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy or designee;

(B) the Chair of the Committee on Appropriations or designee; and

(C) a member of the Senate at large.

(d) Powers and duties. The Vermont Working Group on Wildlife Funding shall review and analyze the funding, management, and policies of the Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) under statute and rule, and shall:

(1) Assess how the principles and priorities for the conservation and management of fish, wildlife, and fur-bearing animals and the natural systems upon which they depend will impact sources and amounts of funding needed by the Department for the next 20 years. The assessment shall:

(A) address the stability of all current Department funding streams going forward;

(B) estimate revenues and identify new and existing revenue sources and other resources needed for new and additional programs at the Department; and

(C) consider equitability when evaluating potential revenue sources.

(2) Recommend how the Department can create and maintain stable and adequate funding for the next 20 years.

(e) Assistance. The Vermont Working Group on Wildlife Funding shall have the administrative, technical, and legal assistance of the Office of Legislative Council. The Working Group shall have the assistance of the Joint Fiscal Office on fiscal issues and the assistance of the Department of Fish and Wildlife on issues related to the jurisdiction of the Department.

(f) Report. On or before January 1, 2021, the Vermont Working Group on Wildlife Funding shall report to the House Committees on Natural Resources, Fish, and Wildlife, on Appropriations, and on Government Operations and the Senate Committees on Natural Resources and Energy, on Appropriations, and on Government Operations with its findings and any recommendations for legislative action.

(g) Meetings.

(1) The Office of Legislative Council shall call the first meeting of the Vermont Working Group on Wildlife Funding to occur on or before July 1, 2020.

(2) The Vermont Working Group on Wildlife Funding shall select a chair from among its members at the first meeting.

(3) A majority of the membership of the Vermont Working Group on Wildlife Funding shall constitute a quorum.

(4) The Vermont Working Group on Wildlife Funding shall cease to exist on February 1, 2021.

(h) Compensation and reimbursement. For attendance at meetings during adjournment of the General Assembly, a legislative member of the Vermont Working Group on Wildlife Funding serving in his or her capacity as a legislator shall be entitled to per diem compensation and reimbursement of expenses pursuant to 2 V.S.A. § 406 for not more than 10 meetings. These payments shall be made from monies appropriated to the General Assembly.

Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on passage.

(Committee Vote: 8-0-2)

Favorable

H. 942

An act relating to the Transportation Program and miscellaneous changes to laws related to transportation.

(Rep. McCormack of Burlington will speak for the Committee on Transportation.)

Rep. Helm of Fair Haven, for the Committee on Appropriations, recommends the bill ought to pass.

(Committee Vote: 11-0-0)

Amendment to be offered by Reps. McCormack of Burlington, Murphy of Fairfax, Corcoran of Bennington, Burke of Brattleboro, McCarthy of St. Albans City, McCoy of Poultney, Potter of Clarendon, Quimby of Concord, Savage of Swanton, Sullivan of Burlington, and White of Hartford to H. 942

Representatives McCormack of Burlington, Murphy of Fairfax, Corcoran of Bennington, Burke of Brattleboro, McCarthy of St. Albans City, McCoy of Poultney, Potter of Clarendon, Quimby of Concord, Savage of Swanton, Sullivan of Burlington, and White of Hartford move that the bill be amended by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

* * * Transportation Program Adopted as Amended;

Intent; Reports; Definitions * * *

Sec. 1. TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM ADOPTED; INTENT; REPORTS;
DEFINITIONS

(a) Transportation program adopted. The Agency of Transportation's proposed fiscal year 2021 Transportation Program appended to the Agency of Transportation's proposed fiscal year 2021 budget, as amended by this act, is adopted to the extent federal, State, and local funds are available.

(b) Intent.

(1) It is the intent of the General Assembly that the Agency's top priority should be the transportation program adopted under subsection (a) of this section, including preserving all funding to municipalities.

(2) In response to the unprecedented challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the General Assembly acknowledges that continued funding of infrastructure will help boost our local economy and support the health and welfare of Vermonters. Accordingly, it is the intent of the General Assembly that the projects funded in this act, including under Secs. 2 and 3 of this act, will serve to support and help drive growth in Vermont's economy during this uncertain time.

(3) In light of the long-term and ongoing climate change emergency, it is the intent of the General Assembly to continue to invest in and prioritize

measures that will directly contribute to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions consistent with the State's 2016 Comprehensive Energy Plan.

(c) Reports.

(1) The Agency shall, on or before September 1, 2020, file a written report with the Joint Transportation Oversight Committee and the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Transportation with the following information:

(A) an update on enacted and anticipated federal COVID-19 legislation;

(B) an update on projects in the transportation program adopted under subsection (a) of this section that are not anticipated to proceed as planned in fiscal year 2021 and the reasons why;

(C) an update on projects not in the transportation program adopted under subsection (a) of this section that will proceed in fiscal year 2021 and the source of funding;

(D) the status of and funding remaining for the electric vehicle incentive programs established pursuant to 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 59, Sec. 34;

(E) the balance of funding available for public transit under federal COVID-19 legislation; and

(F) any expected reduction in funding available for municipalities.

(2) The Agency shall, on or before February 15, 2021, file a written report with the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Transportation with the following information:

(A) an update on enacted and anticipated federal COVID-19 legislation;

(B) an update on projects in the transportation program adopted under subsection (a) of this section that are not anticipated to proceed as planned in fiscal year 2021 and the reasons why;

(C) an update on projects not in the transportation program adopted under subsection (a) of this section that will proceed in fiscal year 2021 and the source of funding;

(D) the status of and funding remaining for the electric vehicle incentive programs established pursuant to 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 59, Sec. 34;

(E) the balance of funding available for public transit under federal COVID-19 legislation; and

(F) any expected reduction in funding available for municipalities.

(d) Definitions. As used in this act, unless otherwise indicated:

(1) “Agency” means the Agency of Transportation.

(2) “Electric vehicle supply equipment” has the same meaning as in 30 V.S.A. § 201 and is abbreviated “EVSE.”

(3) “Federal COVID-19 legislation” includes any federal infrastructure bills or other federal legislation that provide the State with additional federal funding for transportation-related projects in fiscal year 2021 or was enacted as a result of COVID-19.

(4) “Plug-in electric vehicle,” “plug-in hybrid electric vehicle,” and “battery electric vehicle” have the same meanings as in 23 V.S.A. § 4(85) as amended by this act and are abbreviated “PEV,” “PHEV,” and “BEV.”

(5) “Secretary” means the Secretary of Transportation.

(6) “TIB funds” means monies deposited in the Transportation Infrastructure Bond Fund in accordance with 19 V.S.A. § 11f.

(7) The table heading “As Proposed” means the proposed Transportation Program referenced in subsection (a) of this section; the table heading “As Amended” means the amendments as made by this act; the table heading “Change” means the difference obtained by subtracting the “As Proposed” figure from the “As Amended” figure; and the terms “change” or “changes” in the text refer to the project- and program-specific amendments, the aggregate sum of which equals the net “Change” in the applicable table heading.

* * * Federal Funding * * *

Sec. 2. FEDERAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND CAPITAL FUNDING

(a) If federal COVID-19 legislation is enacted, the Secretary is authorized to:

(1) exceed federal spending authority in the fiscal year 2020 Transportation Program and fiscal year 2021 Transportation Program and to obligate and expend the federal monies, as practicable, on the following federally eligible projects, with a priority placed on projects, such as the purchase of PEV buses for public transit and the construction of bicycle and pedestrian facilities and EVSE, that will directly contribute to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions consistent with the State’s 2016 Comprehensive

Energy Plan and projects that will keep Vermonters employed, promote economic activity, and allow the State and municipalities to catch up on deferred maintenance:

(A) projects in the fiscal year 2020 Transportation Program and fiscal year 2021 Transportation Program;

(B) additional town highway projects; and

(C) activities that meet federal eligibility and readiness criteria;

(2) notwithstanding any provision of Title 19 of the Vermont Statutes Annotated to the contrary, waive any Title 19 match requirements for projects funded under federal COVID-19 legislation; and

(3) require that municipalities meet nonfederal match requirements for projects not authorized in the fiscal year 2020 Transportation Program or fiscal year 2021 Transportation Program funded under federal COVID-19 legislation.

(b) The Agency shall promptly report the obligation or expenditure of monies under the authority of subsection (a) of this section in writing to the House and Senate Committees on Transportation and to the Joint Fiscal Office while the General Assembly is in session and to the Joint Fiscal Office, the Joint Fiscal Committee, and the Joint Transportation Oversight Committee when the General Assembly is not in session.

(c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to authorize the Secretary to obligate or expend State Transportation Funds, General Funds, or TIB funds above amounts authorized in the fiscal year 2020 Transportation Program or fiscal year 2021 Transportation Program.

(d) Subsections (a) and (b) of this section shall continue in effect until February 1, 2021.

* * * Additional Agency Spending; Redirection * * *

Sec. 3. AGENCY SPENDING; AUTHORITY TO REDIRECT; REPORT

(a) Notwithstanding Sec. 1 of this act; 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 59, Sec. 1; 19 V.S.A. § 10g(n); and 32 V.S.A. § 706, the Secretary is authorized to utilize State and federal monies for any of the following activities that will keep Vermonters employed, promote economic activity, and allow the State and municipalities to catch up on deferred maintenance in fiscal years 2020 and 2021, provided that the Agency expects to accept and obligate federal monies pursuant to subsection 2(a) of this act in an amount sufficient to cover the additional expenditures:

- (1) bridge maintenance;
- (2) paving and surface maintenance;
- (3) clearing of trees and brush in rights-of-way;
- (4) ledge and slope remediation;
- (5) culvert repair and replacement; and
- (6) any other maintenance activities that are expected to provide an economic stimulus in Vermont communities.

(b) Notwithstanding Sec. 1 of this act; 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 59, Sec. 1; 19 V.S.A. § 10g(n); and 32 V.S.A. § 706, the Secretary is authorized to utilize State and federal monies for any of the following greenhouse gas emissions reduction efforts in fiscal years 2020 and 2021, provided that the Agency expects to accept and obligate federal monies pursuant to subsection 2(a) of this act in an amount sufficient to cover the additional expenditures:

(1) funding for a grant program for the installation of EVSE that builds upon the existing VW EVSE Grant Program that the Department of Housing and Community Development has been administering on behalf of the Department of Environmental Conservation;

- (2) PEV buses for public transit;
- (3) PEVs for the State motor vehicle fleet; and

(4) funding, not to exceed \$1,000,000.00, for the New PEV Incentive Program created pursuant to 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 59, Sec. 34 as amended by the act.

(c) If the expenditure of monies pursuant to subsection (a) or (b) of this section will not significantly delay the planned work schedule of a project in the fiscal year 2020 and 2021 Transportation Programs, the Secretary may enter into a contract for the activity or proceed with the expenditure and shall give prompt notice of the contract or expenditure to the Joint Fiscal Office and to the House and Senate Committees on Transportation when the General Assembly is in session and to the Joint Fiscal Office and the Joint Transportation Oversight Committee when the General Assembly is not in session.

(d) If the expenditure of monies pursuant to subsection (a) or (b) of this section will significantly delay the planned work schedule of a project, the Secretary may enter into a contract for the activity or proceed with the expenditure but shall give advance notice of at least 10 business days prior to executing the contract or making the expenditure to the House and Senate

Committees on Transportation when the General Assembly is in session and to the Joint Fiscal Office, Joint Fiscal Committee, and Joint Transportation Oversight Committee when the General Assembly is not in session.

(e) The Secretary of Administration shall, on or before July 31, 2020, file a written report listing all expenditures made during fiscal year 2020 under the authority of subsections (a) and (b) of this section to the House and Senate Committees on Transportation, Joint Fiscal Office, Joint Fiscal Committee, and Joint Transportation Oversight Committee.

(f) The Secretary of Administration shall, on or before July 31, 2021, file a written report listing all expenditures made during fiscal year 2021 under the authority of subsections (a) and (b) of this section to the House and Senate Committees on Transportation, Joint Fiscal Office, Joint Fiscal Committee, and Joint Transportation Oversight Committee.

(g) The reports required pursuant to subsections (e) and (f) of this section shall be in addition to the report required pursuant to 19 V.S.A. § 10g(e).

* * * Amtrak; Burlington Rail Yard Realignment * * *

Sec. 4. ADDITION OF BURLINGTON RAIL YARD REALIGNMENT
FOR AMTRAK PROJECT

The following project is added to the development and evaluation list of Rail within the Agency’s Fiscal Year 2020 Transportation Program, as adopted pursuant to 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 59, Sec. 1, and the development and evaluation list of Rail within the Agency’s Proposed Fiscal Year 2021 Transportation Program: Burlington – Railyard Realignment for Amtrak.

* * * Highway Maintenance * * *

Sec. 5. HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE

Within the Agency of Transportation’s Proposed Fiscal Year 2021 Transportation Program for Maintenance, spending is amended as follows:

<u>FY21</u>	<u>As Proposed</u>	<u>As Amended</u>	<u>Change</u>
Personal	45,757,089	45,757,089	0
Services			
Operating	52,896,134	51,596,134	-1,300,000
Expenses			
Grants	240,200	240,200	0

Total	98,893,423	97,593,423	-1,300,000
<u>Sources of funds</u>			
State	96,415,636	95,115,636	-1,300,000
Federal	2,377,787	2,377,787	0
Interdepart.			
Transfer	100,000	100,000	0
Total	98,893,423	97,593,423	-1,300,000

* * * Program Development * * *

* * * Roadway * * *

Sec. 6. PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT; ROADWAY

Within the Agency of Transportation's Proposed Fiscal Year 2021 Transportation Program for Program Development—Roadway, authorized spending for Burlington MEGC M 5000(1) is amended as follows:

<u>FY21</u>	<u>As Proposed</u>	<u>As Amended</u>	<u>Change</u>
Construction	8,000,000	6,420,000	-1,580,000
Total	8,000,000	6,420,000	-1,580,000
<u>Sources of funds</u>			
TIB	240,000	192,600	-47,400
Federal	7,600,000	6,099,000	-1,501,000
Local	160,000	128,400	-31,600
Total	8,000,000	6,420,000	-1,580,000

* * * Safety and Traffic Operations * * *

Sec. 7. PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT; SAFETY AND TRAFFIC

OPERATIONS

Within the Agency of Transportation's Proposed Fiscal Year 2021 Transportation Program for Program Development—Safety and Traffic Operations, authorized spending for Colchester HES NH 5600(14) is amended as follows:

<u>FY21</u>	<u>As Proposed</u>	<u>As Amended</u>	<u>Change</u>
Construction	7,000,000	4,900,000	-2,100,000
Total	7,000,000	4,900,000	-2,100,000

Source of funds

Federal	7,000,000	4,900,000	-2,100,000
Total	7,000,000	4,900,000	-2,100,000

* * * Public Transit * * *

Sec. 8. PUBLIC TRANSIT; FARE-FREE

It is the intent of the General Assembly that public transit operated by transit agencies that are eligible to receive grant funds pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 5307 or 5311, or both, in the State shall be operated on a fare-free basis with monies for public transit from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, Pub. L. No. 116-136 (CARES Act) as practicable.

Sec. 9. PUBLIC TRANSIT; ADDITION OF INCREASED PUBLIC TRANSIT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021

(a) The following project is added to the Agency of Transportation's Proposed Fiscal Year 2021 Transportation Program for Public Transit: Increased Public Transit for Fiscal Year 2021.

(b) Spending authority for Increased Public Transit for Fiscal Year 2021 is authorized as follows:

<u>FY21</u>	<u>As Proposed</u>	<u>As Amended</u>	<u>Change</u>
Other	0	500,000	500,000
Total	0	500,000	500,000
<u>Sources of funds</u>			
State	0	500,000	500,000
Total	0	500,000	500,000

(c) To the extent that the Agency is able to secure additional unobligated federal funds for Increased Public Transit for Fiscal Year 2021, the spending authority for Increased Public Transit for Fiscal Year 2021 is increased by that same amount in federal funds.

(d) The Agency shall increase public transit initiatives in fiscal year 2021 in conformance with the implementation plan in the Agency of Transportation's 2019 Public Transit Policy Plan (PTPP) and findings of the Report on Methods to Increase the Use of Public Transit in Vermont prepared pursuant to 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 59, Sec. 20. Additional initiatives may include:

(1) adding new local and regional service connections to improve rural ridership;

(2) providing support for technology improvements for transit;

(3) expanding access to available seats in transit vehicles; and

(4) marketing and engaging with the public to increase awareness of public transit options.

* * * Lamoille Valley Rail Trail * * *

Sec. 10. LAMOILLE VALLEY RAIL TRAIL

(a) Within the Agency of Transportation’s Proposed Fiscal Year 2021 Transportation Program for Program Development—Bike & Pedestrian Facilities, authorized spending for Swanton-St. Johnsbury LVRT () is amended as follows:

	<u>As Proposed</u>	<u>As Amended</u>	<u>Change</u>
<u>FY21</u>			
Other	2,500,000	7,000,000	4,500,000
Total	2,500,000	7,000,000	4,500,000
<u>FY22</u>			
Other	3,500,000	7,000,000	3,500,000
Total	3,500,000	7,000,000	3,500,000
<u>FY23</u>			
Other	4,500,000	0	-4,500,000
Total	4,500,000	0	-4,500,000
<u>FY24</u>			
Other	3,500,000	0	-3,500,000
Total	3,500,000	0	-3,500,000
<u>Sources of funds FY21</u>			
State	0	700,000	700,000
Other	500,000	700,000	200,000
Federal	2,000,000	5,600,000	3,600,000
Total	2,500,000	7,000,000	4,500,000

Sources of funds FY22

State	0	0	0
Other	0	1,400,000	1,400,000
Federal	0	5,600,000	5,600,000
Total	0	7,000,000	7,000,000

(b) In the Agency of Transportation’s Proposed Fiscal Year 2021 Transportation Program for Program Development—Bike & Pedestrian Facilities, “Other funds of \$500,000 are General Obligation Bond proceeds appropriated in the capital bill for the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail” is struck, and “Other funds of \$2,100,000 are General Obligation Bond proceeds appropriated in the capital construction act for the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail, but if matching federal funds are not available or if federal funds do not require a state match, the funds shall be used for projects in a future capital construction act” is inserted in lieu thereof.

* * * Central Garage * * *

Sec. 11. TRANSFER TO CENTRAL GARAGE FUND

Notwithstanding 19 V.S.A. § 13(c)(1), in fiscal year 2021, the amount of \$1,605,358.00 is transferred from the Transportation Fund to the Central Garage Fund created in 19 V.S.A. § 13.

Sec. 12. CENTRAL GARAGE EQUIPMENT

In fiscal year 2021, the amount of \$8,668,094.00 is authorized for replacement equipment pursuant to 19 V.S.A. § 13(b) and, of this amount, a minimum of \$250,000.00 shall be dedicated for the replacement of Department of Motor Vehicles enforcement fleet vehicles.

* * * Plug-In Electric Vehicle Definitions * * *

Sec. 13. 23 V.S.A. § 4(85) is amended to read:

(85) “Plug-in electric vehicle” means a motor vehicle that can be powered by an electric motor drawing current from a rechargeable energy storage system, such as from storage batteries or other portable electrical energy storage devices provided that the vehicle can draw recharge energy from a source off the vehicle such as electric vehicle supply equipment. A “plug-in electric vehicle” includes both a “battery electric vehicle” and a “plug-in hybrid electric vehicle” where:

(A) “battery electric vehicle” means a motor vehicle that can only be powered by an electric motor drawing current from a rechargeable energy storage system; and

(B) “plug-in hybrid electric vehicle” means a motor vehicle that can be powered by an electric motor drawing current from a rechargeable energy storage system but also has an onboard combustion engine.

* * * Programs and Incentives to Foster PEV Adoption * * *

Sec. 14. 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 59, Sec. 34 is amended to read:

Sec. 34. VEHICLE INCENTIVE AND EMISSIONS REPAIR
PROGRAMS

(a) Vehicle incentive and emissions repair programs administration.

(1) ~~The Agency of Transportation (Agency), in consultation with the Agency of Natural Resources, the Agency of Human Services, the Department of Environmental Conservation and of Public Service, Vermont electric distribution utilities that are offering incentives for PEVs, and the State’s network of community action agencies, shall establish and administer the programs described in subsections (b) and (c) of this section.~~

(2) The Agency is authorized to spend \$2,000,000.00 as appropriated in the fiscal year 2020 budget and any additional monies as appropriated in the fiscal year 2021 budget or Transportation Fund monies authorized to be expended by the Secretary of Transportation pursuant to Sec. 3 of this act, or both, on the two programs described in subsections (b) and (c) of this section. Notwithstanding any other provision of law and subject to the approval of the Secretary of Administration, appropriations for the two programs described in subsections (b) and (c) of this section remaining unexpended on June 30, 2021 shall be carried forward and designated for expenditure on these programs in the subsequent fiscal year.

(3) Subject to State procurement requirements, the Agency may, in fiscal year 2020, retain a contractor or contractors to assist with marketing, program development, and administration of the two programs and up to \$150,000.00 of program funding may be set aside for this purpose. In fiscal year 2021, the Agency is authorized to spend up to \$200,000.00 in program funding to continue and expand the Agency’s public-private partnership with Drive Electric Vermont to support the expansion of the PEV market in the State through technical and consumer assistance; auto dealer education; outreach and incentive program management, including marketing, consumer support, record keeping and reporting, program development and modification, and general program administration for the program described in subsection (b) of this section; and PEV promotional efforts. The Agency shall develop, in consultation with the Departments of Environmental Conservation

and of Public Service, a scope of work for funding the Agency's grants to Drive Electric Vermont pursuant to this section.

(4) The Agency shall administer the program described in subsection (b) of this section through no-cost contracts with the State's electric distribution utilities.

(5) The Agency shall annually evaluate the two programs to gauge effectiveness and submit a written report on the effectiveness of the programs to the House and Senate Committees on Transportation, the House Committee on Energy and Technology, and the Senate Committee on Finance on or before the 31st day of ~~December~~ January in each year following a year that an incentive or repair voucher ~~is~~ was provided through one of the programs. Notwithstanding 2 V.S.A. § 20(d), the annual report required under this section shall continue to be required if an incentive or repair voucher is provided through one of the programs unless the General Assembly takes specific action to repeal the report requirement.

(b) Electric vehicle incentive program. A new PEV purchase and lease incentive program for Vermont residents shall structure PEV purchase and lease incentive payments by income to help ~~all~~ Vermonters benefit from electric driving, including Vermont's most vulnerable. The program shall be known as the New PEV Incentive Program. Specifically, the ~~program~~ New PEV Incentive Program shall:

(1) apply to both purchases and leases of new PEVs with an emphasis on creating and matching incentives for ~~exclusively electric powered vehicles that do not contain an onboard combustion engine~~ BEVs;

(2) provide ~~incentives not more than one incentive of \$1,500.00 for a PHEV or \$2,500.00 for a BEV to Vermont households with low and moderate income at or below 160 percent of the State's prior five-year average Median Household Income (MHI) level:~~

(A) an individual domiciled in the State whose federal income tax filing status is single or head of household with an adjusted gross income under the laws of the United States greater than \$50,000.00 and at or below \$100,000.00;

(B) an individual domiciled in the State whose federal income tax filing status is surviving spouse with an adjusted gross income under the laws of the United States greater than \$50,000.00 and at or below \$125,000.00;

(C) a married couple with at least one spouse domiciled in the State whose federal income tax filing status is married filing jointly with an adjusted

gross income under the laws of the United States greater than \$50,000.00 and at or below \$125,000.00; or

(D) a married couple with at least one spouse domiciled in the State and at least one spouse whose federal income tax filing status is married filing separately with an adjusted gross income under the laws of the United States greater than \$50,000.00 and at or below \$100,000.00;

(3) provide not more than one incentive of \$3,000.00 for a PHEV or \$4,000.00 for a BEV to:

(A) an individual domiciled in the State whose federal income tax filing status is single, head of household, or surviving spouse with an adjusted gross income under the laws of the United States at or below \$50,000.00;

(B) a married couple with at least one spouse domiciled in the State whose federal income tax filing status is married filing jointly with an adjusted gross income under the laws of the United States at or below \$50,000.00; or

(C) a married couple with at least one spouse domiciled in the State and at least one spouse whose federal income tax filing status is married filing separately with an adjusted gross income under the laws of the United States at or below \$50,000.00;

(4) apply to manufactured PEVs with a Base Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price (MSRP) of \$40,000.00 or less; and

(4)(5) provide ~~no~~ not less than \$1,100,000.00, of the initial \$2,000,000.00 authorization, and up to an additional \$2,050,000.00 in fiscal year 2021 in PEV purchase and lease incentives.

* * *

* * * Class 2 Town Highway Roadway Program * * *

Sec. 15. 19 V.S.A. § 306(h) is amended to read:

(h) Class 2 Town Highway Roadway Program. There shall be an annual appropriation for grants to municipalities for resurfacing, rehabilitation, or reconstruction of paved or unpaved class 2 town highways. However, municipalities that have no State highways or class 1 town highways within their borders may use the grants for such activities with respect to both class 2 and class 3 town highways. Each fiscal year, the Agency shall approve qualifying projects with a total estimated State share cost of \$7,648,750.00 at a minimum as new grants. The Agency's proposed appropriation for the Program shall take into account the estimated amount of qualifying invoices submitted to the Agency with respect to project grants approved in prior years but not yet completed as well as with respect to new project grants to be

approved in the fiscal year. In a given fiscal year, should expenditures in the Class 2 Town Highway Roadway Program exceed the amount appropriated, the Agency shall advise the Governor of the need to request a supplemental appropriation from the General Assembly to fund the additional project cost, provided that the Agency has previously committed to completing those projects. Funds received as grants for State aid under the Class 2 Town Highway Roadway Program may be used by a municipality to satisfy a portion of the matching requirements for federal earmarks, subject to subsection 309b(c) of this title.

* * * Telecommuting Report * * *

Sec. 16. TELECOMMUTING REPORT

The Agency of Transportation shall, in consultation with the Agency of Commerce and Community Development, submit a written report on or before September 30, 2021 to the House Committees on Commerce and Economic Development and on Transportation and the Senate Committees on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs and on Transportation that addresses, at a minimum, the following:

- (1) how telecommuting practices changed in the State in response to COVID-19;
- (2) how telecommuting practices changed in the State during fiscal year 2021;
- (3) best practices for telecommuting;
- (4) an estimate of the expenses and savings to Vermont employers and their employees generated by telecommuting during fiscal year 2021;
- (5) an estimate of the annual expenses and savings to Vermont employers in an industry conducive to telecommuting with more than 50 employees that could be generated by greater utilization of telecommuting;
- (6) an estimate of the annual expenses and savings to employees of employers identified in subdivision (5) of this section that could be generated by greater utilization of telecommuting;
- (7) an estimate of the statewide reduction in vehicle miles traveled (VMT), trips, or both and greenhouse gas emissions associated with telecommuting in fiscal year 2021;
- (8) an estimate of the statewide reduction in VMT, trips, or both and greenhouse gas emissions that could be generated by greater utilization of telecommuting; and

(9) recommendations on ways to increase the use of telecommuting in the State.

* * * All-Terrain Vehicles * * *

Sec. 17. 23 V.S.A. §§ 3501 and 3502 are amended to read:

§ 3501. DEFINITIONS

As used in this chapter:

~~(1) “Commissioner” means the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles unless otherwise stated.~~

~~(2) “Department” means Department of Motor Vehicles unless otherwise stated.~~

~~(3) “Operate” includes an attempt to operate and shall be construed to cover all matters and things connected with the presence and use of all-terrain vehicles whether they be at motion or rest.~~

~~(4) “Secretary” means the Secretary of Natural Resources.~~

~~(5) “All-terrain vehicle” or “ATV” means any nonhighway recreational vehicle, except snowmobiles, having ~~no~~ not less than two low pressure tires (10 pounds per square inch, or less), not wider than 64 inches with two-wheel ATVs having permanent, full-time power to both wheels, and having a dry weight of less than 1,700 pounds, when used for cross-country travel on trails or on any one of the following or a combination thereof: land, water, snow, ice, marsh, swampland, and natural terrain. An ATV on a public highway shall be considered a motor vehicle, as defined in section 4 of this title, only for the purposes of those offenses listed in subdivisions 2502(a)(1)(H), (N), (R), (U), (Y), (FF), (GG), (II), and (AAA); (2)(A) and (B); (3)(A), (B), (C), and (D); (4)(A) and (B) and (5) of this title and as provided in section 1201 of this title. An ATV shall not include an electric personal assistive mobility device.~~

(2) “Department” means the Department of Motor Vehicles unless otherwise stated.

(3) “Direct supervision” means that the supervisor shall be sufficiently close and able to control, by communicating visually or orally, the operation of an ATV by an operator under 16 years of age, taking into account the noise created by an ATV and protective headgear worn by the operator.

(4) “Farm” means a parcel or parcels of land owned, leased, or managed by a person and devoted primarily to farming.

(5) “Secretary” means the Secretary of Natural Resources.

(6) “State lands” means land owned, leased, or otherwise controlled by the State.

(6)(7) “Club or association” means an all-terrain vehicle club or “VASA” means the Vermont ATV Sportsman’s Association, a statewide association of ATV clubs.

§ 3502. REGISTRATION AND TRAIL ACCESS DECAL (TAD)

REQUIRED; EXCEPTIONS

(a)(1) An all-terrain vehicle may not be operated Except as otherwise provided in this section, an individual shall not operate an ATV on the VASA Trail System, on State land designated by the Secretary pursuant to subdivision 3506(b)(4) of this title, or along any highway that is not adjacent to the property of the operator unless the ATV:

(A) is registered pursuant to this chapter or any other section of this title by the State of Vermont and unless the all-terrain vehicle or in accordance with subsection (e) of this section; and

(B) displays a valid Vermont ATV Sportsman’s Association (VASA) VASA Trail Access Decal (TAD) when operating on a VASA trail, except when operated:.

(1)(2) Notwithstanding subdivision (1) of this subsection, neither registration nor display of a TAD is required to operate an ATV:

(A) On on the property of the owner of the all-terrain vehicle. ATV;

(B)(2) Off the highway, In in a ski area while being used, off the highway, for the purpose of grooming snow, maintenance, or in rescue operations.;

(3)(C) For for official use by a federal, State, or municipal agency and only if the all-terrain vehicle ATV is identified with the name or seal of the agency in a manner approved by the Commissioner.; or

(D)(4) Solely on privately owned land when the operator is specifically invited to do so by the owner of that the property and has on his or her person carries the written consent of the owner.

(3)(5) By a person who Notwithstanding subdivision (1) of this subsection, an operator may operate an ATV without a TAD displayed if the operator possesses a completed TAD form processed electronically and within the prior 10 days that is either printed out or displayed on a portable electronic device. The printed or electronic TAD form shall be valid for 10 days after the electronic transaction. Use of a portable electronic device to display a

completed TAD form does not in itself constitute consent for an enforcement officer to access other contents of the device.

* * *

(c) The possession of a valid TAD or registration of an all-terrain vehicle ATV does not constitute a license to cross or operate an all-terrain vehicle ATV on public or private lands, even if temporarily while crossing the public or private lands.

(d) An all-terrain vehicle which ATV that does not comply with the provisions of this chapter may shall not be registered by the Commissioner.

(e) An all-terrain vehicle ATV owned by a person who is a resident of any other state or province shall be deemed to be properly registered for the purposes of this chapter if it is registered in accordance with the laws of the state or province in which its owner resides. An operator who is a resident of any other state or province shall be subject to the provisions of this chapter while operating an ATV within this State, including possessing a valid TAD in the same circumstances that a resident of this State is required to possess a valid TAD.

Sec. 18. 23 V.S.A. § 3506 is amended to read:

§ 3506. OPERATION; PROHIBITED ACTS; FINANCIAL
RESPONSIBILITY; HEADGEAR

(a) A person shall only operate an ATV, or permit an ~~all-terrain vehicle~~ ATV owned by him or her or under his or her control to be operated, in accordance with this chapter.

(b) ~~An all-terrain vehicle~~ ATV shall not be operated:

(1) Along a public highway except if one or more of the following applies:

(A) ~~the highway is not being maintained during the snow season;~~

(B) ~~the highway has been opened to all-terrain vehicle ATV travel by the selectboard or trustees or local governing body~~ legislative body of the municipality where the town highway is located or, for State highways, the Secretary of Transportation and is so posted by the municipality;

(C)(B) ~~the all-terrain vehicle~~ ATV is being used for agricultural purposes and is operated not closer than three feet from the traveled portion of any highway for the purpose of traveling within the confines of the farm; or

~~(D)~~(C) the ~~all-terrain vehicle~~ ATV is being used by an employee or agent of an electric transmission or distribution company subject to the jurisdiction of the Public Utility Commission under 30 V.S.A. § 203 for utility purposes, including safely accessing utility corridors, provided that the ~~all-terrain vehicle~~ ATV shall be operated along the edge of the roadway and shall yield to other vehicles.

(2) Across a public highway ~~unless~~ except if all of the following conditions are met:

(A) the crossing is made at an angle of approximately 90 degrees to the direction of the highway and at a place where no obstruction prevents a quick and safe crossing; ~~and~~

(B) the operator brings the ~~all-terrain vehicle~~ ATV to a complete stop before entering the ~~travelled~~ traveled portion of the highway; ~~and~~

(C) the operator yields the ~~right-of-way~~ right of way to motor vehicles and pedestrians using the highway; ~~and~~

(D) the operator is 12 years of age or older; ~~and that~~

(E) in the case of an operator under 16 years of age, must be the operator is under the direct supervision of a person an individual 18 years of age or older who does not have a suspended operator's license or privilege to operate.

(3) On any privately owned land or privately owned body of ~~private~~ water unless either:

(A) the operator is the owner, or member of the immediate family of the owner of the land; ~~or~~

(B) the operator ~~has, on his or her person,~~ carries the written consent of the owner or lessee of the land or the land surrounding the privately owned body of water to operate an ~~all-terrain vehicle~~ ATV in the specific area and during specific hours ~~and/or~~ or days, or both in which the operator is operating; ~~or;~~

(C) the ~~all-terrain vehicle~~ ATV displays a valid ~~TAD decal~~ VASA Trail Access Decal (TAD) as required by subsection 3502(a) of this title that serves as proof that the ~~all-terrain vehicle~~ ATV and its operator, by virtue of the TAD, are members of a ~~VASA-affiliated club to which such VASA and~~ consent has been given orally or in writing to operate an ~~all-terrain vehicle~~ ATV in the area ~~in which~~ where the operator is operating; ~~or~~

~~(C)~~(D) the owner of the land ~~has~~ or the land surrounding the privately owned body of water designated the area for use by ~~all-terrain~~

~~vehicles~~ ATVs by posting the area in a manner approved by the Secretary to give reasonable notice that use is permitted.

(4) On any ~~public land~~ municipal lands unless opened to ATV travel by the legislative body of the municipality where the land is located or on any State lands, body of public water, or natural area established under the provisions of 10 V.S.A. § 2607 unless ~~the Secretary has designated the area by the Secretary~~ for use by ~~all-terrain vehicles pursuant to~~ ATVs in rules promulgated ~~adopted under provisions of~~ 3 V.S.A. chapter 25.

(5) By ~~a person~~ an individual under 12 years of age unless he or she is wearing on his or her head protective headgear of a type approved by the Commissioner while operating the ATV or riding as a passenger on the ATV and either:

(A) he or she is on land owned by his or her parents, family, or guardian;

(B) he or she has written permission of the landowner or lessee; or

(C) he or she is under the direct supervision of a person at least an individual 18 years of age or older who does not have a suspended operator's license or privilege to operate.

(6) In any manner ~~intended or~~ that could reasonably ~~to~~ be expected to harm, harass, drive, or pursue any wildlife.

(7) If the registration certificate or consent form ~~is~~ and proof of insurance are not available for inspection, and the registration number, or plate of a size and type approved by the Commissioner, is not displayed on the ~~all-terrain vehicle~~ ATV in a manner approved by the Commissioner.

(8) While the operator is under the influence of drugs or alcohol as defined by this title.

(9) In a careless or negligent manner ~~or in a manner~~ that is inconsistent with the duty of ordinary care, so as to endanger ~~a person~~ an individual or property.

(10) Within a cemetery, public or private, as defined in 18 V.S.A. § 5302.

(11) On limited access highways, ~~rights-of-way~~ rights-of-way, or approaches unless permitted by the Traffic Committee under section 1004 of this title. In no cases shall the use of ~~all-terrain vehicles~~ ATVs be permitted on any portion of the Dwight D. Eisenhower National System of Interstate and Defense Highways unless the Traffic Committee permits operation on these highways.

(12) On a sidewalk unless permitted by the selectboard or trustees of the local governing legislative body of the municipality where the sidewalk is located.

(13) Without liability insurance as described in this subdivision. The owner or operator of an ATV shall not operate or permit the operation of an ATV at locations where the ATV must be registered in order to be lawfully operated under section 3502 of this title without having in effect a bond or a liability policy in the amounts of at least \$25,000.00 for one individual and \$50,000.00 for two or more individuals killed or injured and \$10,000.00 for damages to property in any one accident. In lieu of a bond or liability policy, evidence of self-insurance in the amount of \$115,000.00 must be filed with the Commissioner. Financial responsibility shall be maintained and evidenced in a form prescribed by the Commissioner, and persons who self-insure shall be subject to the provisions of subsection 801(c) of this title.

(14) While the operator's license or privilege to operate a motor vehicle is suspended, unless operated at a location described in subdivision 3502(a)(2)(A) or (D) of this title.

(15) Outside the boundaries of trails established by the VASA Trail System unless such operation is specifically authorized pursuant to another provision of this chapter.

(16) Unless the operator and all passengers wear properly secured protective headgear, of a type approved by the Commissioner and as intended by the manufacturer, if the ATV is operated at locations where the ATV must be registered in order to be lawfully operated under section 3502 of this title.

(c) No public or private landowner shall be liable for any property damage or personal injury sustained by any ~~person~~ individual operating or riding as a passenger on an ~~all-terrain vehicle~~ ATV or upon a vehicle or other device drawn by an ~~all-terrain vehicle~~ ATV upon the public or private landowner's property, whether or not the public or private landowner has given permission to use the land, unless the public or private landowner charges a cash fee to the operator or owner of the ~~all-terrain vehicle~~ ATV for the use of the property or unless damage or injury is intentionally inflicted by the landowner.

(d) In addition to all other requirements, an ~~all-terrain vehicle~~ ATV may not be operated:

(1) if equipped with an exhaust system with a cut out, bypass, or similar device; or

(2) with the spark arrester removed or modified, except for use in closed course competition events.

(e) In addition to all other requirements, an ~~all-terrain vehicle~~ ATV may not be operated by an operator who is less than 18 years of age unless one of the following criteria is met:

(1) the operator is operating on property owned or leased by the operator or his or her parents or guardian; or

(2) the operator is taking a prescribed safety education training course and operating under the direct supervision of a certified ~~all-terrain vehicle~~ ATV safety instructor; or

(3) the operator holds an appropriate safety education certificate issued by this State or issued under the authority of another state or province of Canada.

(f) ~~A person~~ An individual who is required to hold an appropriate safety education certificate under the provisions of subsection (e) of this section shall exhibit the safety education certificate upon demand of a law enforcement officer having authority to enforce the provisions of this section.

(g) ~~Notwithstanding any other provision of law or rule to the contrary, the Commissioner may authorize the temporary operation of all-terrain vehicles not registered in this State on Route 253 in Beecher Falls for an annual special event, provided the all-terrain vehicle is registered in another state or province.~~ [Repealed.]

* * * U.S. Postal Service; Vehicle Inspection; Sunset Repeal * * *

Sec. 19. 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 71, Sec. 31(a)(4) is amended to read:

(4) ~~23 V.S.A. § 1222(e), added in Sec. 27 (inspections; mail carrier vehicles), shall be repealed on July 1, 2020.~~ [Repealed.]

* * * Permit Fees; Waiver * * *

Sec. 20. AUTHORITY TO WAIVE RIGHT-OF-WAY PERMIT FEES

(a) Notwithstanding 19 V.S.A. § 1112(b), the Secretary is authorized to waive fees associated with permits or permit amendments issued pursuant to 19 V.S.A. § 1111 for any reason associated with the response and recovery to the COVID-19 pandemic.

(b) Subsection (a) of this section shall continue in effect until six months after the conclusion of a state of emergency declared under 20 V.S.A. chapter 1 due to COVID-19.

* * * Use of Pozzolans as an Alternative to Portland Cement * * *

Sec. 21. USE OF POZZOLANS AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO PORTLAND

CEMENT

(a) Findings. The General Assembly finds that:

(1) Pozzolans, such as pulverized fuel ash (commonly known as “fly ash”), ground granulated blast-furnace slag, and silica fume, can be used to partially replace a portion of the Portland Cement used in the production of concrete.

(2) Using pozzolans in the production of concrete for transportation infrastructure projects can typically reduce the use of Portland Cement by 40 to 50 percent.

(3) Using pozzolans in a concrete mix design can:

(A) reduce the carbon dioxide emissions associated with transportation infrastructure projects, such as bridges and sidewalks;

(B) increase the compressive strength and durability of concrete; and

(C) decrease construction costs.

(4) Pozzolans cannot be used as a complete substitute for Portland Cement in a concrete mix design because they enhance and do not replace the cementitious properties of Portland Cement as it hydrates as part of the overall chemical reaction that binds and strengthens the concrete.

(b) Use of Portland Cement. The Agency is encouraged to continue researching, testing, and wherever practicable, using pozzolans and alternatives to Portland Cement as part of the concrete mix designs for all transportation infrastructure projects.

* * * Effective Dates * * *

Sec. 22. EFFECTIVE DATES

(a) This section and Secs. 2 (federal funding), 3 (spending redirection), 4 (Amtrak), 19 (U.S. Postal Service vehicle inspection exemption sunset repeal; 23 V.S.A. § 1222(e)), and 20 (section 1111 permit fee waiver) shall take effect on passage.

(b) All other sections shall take effect on July 1, 2020.

Unfinished Business of May 20, 2020

Favorable with Amendment

H. 783

An act relating to recovery residences

Rep. Killackey of South Burlington, for the Committee on General,

Housing, and Military Affairs, recommends the bill be amended by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. LEGISLATIVE INTENT

It is the intent of the General Assembly that any exceptions made to existing landlord and tenant relationships in this act are limited solely to recovery residences operating pursuant to this act. These exceptions are intended to enable the expansion of recovery residences throughout the State and ensure their accessibility to individuals recovering from a substance use disorder.

Sec. 2. 18 V.S.A. § 4812 is added to read:

§ 4812. RECOVERY RESIDENCES

(a) Definition.

(1) As used in this section, “recovery residence” means a shared living residence supporting persons recovering from a substance use disorder that:

(A) Provides residents with peer support, an environment that prohibits the use of alcohol and the illegal use of prescription drugs or other illegal substances, and provides assistance accessing support services and community resources available to persons recovering from substance use disorder; and

(B) Is certified by an organization that is a Vermont affiliate of the National Alliance for Recovery Residences and adheres to the national standards established by the Alliance or its successor in interest. If there is no successor in interest, the Department of Health shall designate a certifying organization to uphold appropriate standards for recovery housing.

(2) As used in this section, “the illegal use of prescription drugs” refers to the use of prescription drugs by a person who does not hold a valid prescription for that drug or in an amount that exceeds the dosing instructions.

(b) Voluntary arrangement. The decision to live in a recovery residence shall be voluntary and shall not be required or mandated by any private or public entity or individual.

(c) Terms of residency; compliance.

(1) Landlord and tenant relationship. A recovery residence and a resident have a landlord and tenant relationship that is subject to 9 V.S.A. chapter 137, except as otherwise provided in subdivisions (3)–(4) of this subsection.

(2) Residential rental agreement.

(A) A recovery residence and a resident shall execute a written rental agreement that includes:

(i) the policies and procedures governing the tenancy;

(ii) a statement that the recovery residence and the resident will comply with the policies and procedures;

(iii) the consequences of noncompliance;

(iv) the identification of a verified location where the resident may be housed in the event of temporary removal;

(v) payment requirements;

(vi) notice requirements and procedure for terminating the tenancy;

(vii) the contact information for a resident's probation or parole officer, if the resident is on furlough or parole from the Department of Corrections; and

(viii) any other provisions to which the parties agree.

(B) The parties may amend a rental agreement in a written record signed by the parties.

(C) A resident may have a support person present when negotiating and executing a rental agreement or amendment.

(3) Temporary removal.

(A) A recovery residence shall adopt policies and procedures that govern the temporary removal of a resident who uses alcohol or illegal substances, engages in the illegal use of prescription drugs, or engages in violent, sexually harassing, or threatening behavior, consistent with the following:

(i) A recovery residence shall:

(I) provide written notice of the reason for temporary removal and of the actions the resident must take to avoid temporary removal or to be readmitted after temporary removal;

(II) design and implement harm reduction strategies for a resident who is temporarily removed, which may include providing naloxone to the resident upon temporary removal or other strategies more appropriate to the resident's recovery needs; and

(III) take action that is consistent with the resident's most recent reoccurrence agreement to the extent possible.

(ii) A recovery residence shall not temporarily remove a resident based solely on the resident's use of medication in conjunction with medication-assisted treatment, as defined in section 4750 of this title.

(B) Notwithstanding 9 V.S.A. §§ 4463 and 4464, a recovery residence that complies with the policies and procedures adopted pursuant to this subdivision (c)(3) may temporarily deny a resident access to the recovery residence and to his or her property within the residence.

(4) Termination of tenancy.

(A) A recovery residence shall adopt policies and procedures that govern the termination of tenancy of a resident who violates one or more provisions of the rental agreement, consistent with the following:

(i) A recovery residence shall:

(I) provide written notice of its intent to terminate the tenancy that includes the reason for termination and the actions the resident must take to avoid removal;

(II) design and implement harm reduction strategies for a resident whose tenancy is terminated, which may include providing naloxone to the resident upon removal or other strategies more appropriate to the resident's recovery needs; and

(III) adopt a review process under which:

(aa) a person other than the original decision maker or a subordinate of the original decision maker, which may include a Vermont affiliate of the National Alliance for Recovery Residences, reviews the decision to terminate the tenancy;

(bb) the resident has a meaningful opportunity to present evidence why the resident should not be removed; and

(cc) the resident receives prompt written notice of a final decision.

(ii) A recovery residence shall not:

(I) terminate a tenancy because a resident uses alcohol or illegal substances, or engages in the illegal use of prescription drugs, unless:

(aa) the resident fails to take the actions required to avoid temporary removal or to be readmitted after temporary removal; and

(bb) the recovery residence has contemporary drug test results verified by a laboratory approved by the State; or

(II) terminate a tenancy based solely on the resident's use of medication in conjunction with medication-assisted treatment, as defined in section 4750 of this title.

(B) Notwithstanding 9 V.S.A. §§ 4467 and 4468, a recovery residence that complies with the policies and procedures adopted pursuant to this subdivision (c)(5) may terminate the tenancy of a resident pursuant to the notice requirements and procedure for terminating the tenancy provided in the rental agreement.

(d) Drug testing. A recovery residence shall adopt policies and procedures that govern drug testing of residents and shall apply the policies and testing procedures fairly among residents.

(e) Future services. A recovery residence shall not deny future services to a resident who has been either temporarily removed from a recovery residence or whose tenancy has been terminated, based solely on the resident's use of alcohol or illegal substances or the illegal use of prescription drugs.

Sec. 3. 24 V.S.A. § 4412 is amended to read:

§ 4412. REQUIRED PROVISIONS AND PROHIBITED EFFECTS

Notwithstanding any existing bylaw, the following land development provisions shall apply in every municipality:

(1) Equal treatment of housing and required provisions for affordable housing.

* * *

(G) A residential care home or group home to be operated under State licensing or registration, serving not more than eight persons who have a disability as defined in 9 V.S.A. § 4501, and a recovery residence as defined in 18 V.S.A. § 4812, serving not more than eight persons, shall be considered by right to constitute a permitted single-family residential use of property. This subdivision (G) does not require a municipality to allow a greater number of residential care homes or group homes on a lot than the number of single-family dwellings allowed on the lot.

* * *

Sec. 4. REPORT; RECOVERY RESIDENCE; FURLOUGH

On or before January 1, 2021 and annually thereafter through January 1, 2024, the Department of Corrections shall submit a report to the House Committees on General, Housing, and Military Affairs, on Corrections and Institutions, and on Human Services and to the Senate Committees on

Economic Development, on Health and Welfare, and on Judiciary containing the number of individuals on furlough who reside in recovery residences as defined in 18 V.S.A. § 4812 and the number of individuals who have violated the conditions of their furlough and were removed from their recovery residence and returned to prison.

Sec. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.

(Committee Vote:8-1-2)

Rep. Redmond of Essex, for the Committee on Human Services, recommends the bill ought to pass when amended as recommended by the Committee on General, Housing, and Military Affairs and when further amended as follows:

First: In Sec. 2, 18 V.S.A. § 4812, in subdivision (a)(1)(A), by striking out “available to persons recovering from substance use disorder;” and inserting in lieu thereof “.”

Second: In Sec. 2, 18 V.S.A. § 4812, in subsection (c), by striking out subdivision (3)(A)(ii) in its entirety and inserting a new subdivision (3)(A)(ii) to read as follows:

(ii) A recovery residence shall not temporarily remove a resident based on the resident receiving medication-assisted treatment, as defined in section 4750 of this title.

Third: In Sec. 2, 18 V.S.A. § 4812, in subsection (c), by striking out subdivision (4)(A)(ii)(II) in its entirety and inserting a new subdivision (4)(A)(ii)(II) to read as follows:

(II) terminate a tenancy based on the resident receiving medication-assisted treatment, as defined in section 4750 of this title.

Fourth: In Sec. 4, report; recovery residence; furlough, after “Senate Committees on Economic Development” by inserting “, Housing and General Affairs”

(Committee Vote: 9-0-2)

Amendment to be offered by Rep. Killacky of South Burlington to the recommendation of amendment of the Committee on General, Housing, and Military Affairs as further amended as recommended by the Committee on Human Services to H. 783

First: In Sec. 2, 18 V.S.A. § 4812, in subsection (a), by striking out subdivision (1)(B) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new subdivision (1)(B) to read as follows:

(B) Is certified by an organization that is a Vermont affiliate of the

National Alliance for Recovery Residences or obtains a preliminary certification within 45 days of operation and adheres to the national standards established by the Alliance or its successor in interest. If there is no successor in interest, the Department of Health shall designate a certifying organization to uphold appropriate standards for recovery housing.

Second: In Sec. 2, 18 V.S.A. § 4812, in subsection (c), by striking out subdivision (3)(B) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new subdivision (3)(B) to read as follows:

(B) Notwithstanding 9 V.S.A. §§ 4463 and 4464, a recovery residence that complies with the policies and procedures adopted pursuant to this subdivision (c)(3) may temporarily deny a resident access to the recovery residence, but shall return to the resident his or her property or ensure its safekeeping.

Unfinished Business of May 22, 2020

Favorable with Amendment

S. 345

An act relating to temporary municipal meeting provisions in response to the COVID-19 outbreak

Rep. Colston of Winooski, for the Committee on Government Operations, recommends that the House propose to the Senate that the bill be amended by striking Sec. 2 in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof:

Sec. 2. MUNICIPAL PROPERTY TAX; HIGHWAY EXPENDITURES;

GENERAL GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES

(a) Notwithstanding 19 V.S.A. § 312 and any other provision of law to the contrary, during a declared state of emergency under 20 V.S.A. chapter 1 due to COVID-19, the legislative body of a municipality is authorized to:

(1) borrow monies appropriated from property taxes for the highway expenditures of the municipality as part of the budget approved by the legal voters of the municipality to expend on general government expenditures; and

(2) borrow monies appropriated from property taxes for the general government expenditures of the municipality as part of the budget approved by the legal voters of the municipality to expend on highway expenditures.

(b) The acts permitted by subsection (a) of this section may be adopted by majority vote of the legislative body of a municipality and shall expire on January 1, 2021.

(c) This section shall apply only to property taxes collected by a municipality from the taxpayers. This section shall not apply to any State aid for town highways distributed pursuant to 19 V.S.A. § 306.

(d) This section shall not alleviate the municipality of any Title 19 match requirements.

(e) A municipality that borrows and expends monies under this section shall, not later than December 31, 2021, transfer to any such fund from which such borrowing has been made an amount equal to such borrowed amount together with interest on the borrowed amount at such rate as the legislative body of the municipality shall determine.

Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on passage.

and that after passage the title of the bill be amended to read: “An act relating to temporary municipal provisions in response to the COVID-19 outbreak”

(Committee vote: 11-0-0)

(For text see Senate Journal April 27, 2020, page 439)

Unfinished Business of May 26, 2020

Third Reading

H. 955

An act relating to capital construction and State bonding budget adjustment

Favorable with Amendment

H. 716

An act relating to Abenaki hunting and fishing licenses

Rep. Lefebvre of Newark, for the Committee on Natural Resources; Fish; and Wildlife, recommends the bill be amended by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 10 V.S.A. § 4255 is amended to read:

§ 4255. LICENSE FEES

* * *

(c) A permanent or free license may be secured on application to the Department by a person qualifying as follows:

* * *

(7) A person who is a certified citizen of one of the State-recognized Native American Indian tribes may receive a free permanent combination hunting and fishing license upon submission of a current and valid tribal identification card or if the person is a minor, upon written certification from the minor's parent or guardian that the minor is a citizen of the State-recognized Native American Indian tribes.

* * *

Sec. 2. REPORT

On or before January 15, 2022, the Commissioner of Fish and Wildlife shall report to the House Committee on Natural Resources, Fish, and Wildlife and the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy the number of licenses issued pursuant to 10 V.S.A. § 4255(c)(7).

Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.

(Committee Vote: 10-1-0)

Rep. Kornheiser of Brattleboro, for the Committee on Ways and Means, recommends the bill be amended by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 10 V.S.A. § 4255 is amended to read:

§ 4255. LICENSE FEES

* * *

(c) A permanent or free license may be secured on application to the Department by a person qualifying as follows:

* * *

(7) A certified citizen of a Native American Indian tribe that has been recognized by the State pursuant to 1 V.S.A. chapter 23 may receive a free permanent fishing license or, if the person qualifies for a hunting license, a free permanent combination hunting and fishing license upon submission of a current and valid tribal identification card.

* * *

Sec. 2. REPORT

On or before January 15, 2024, the Commissioner of Fish and Wildlife shall report to the House Committee on Natural Resources, Fish, and Wildlife and the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy the number of licenses issued pursuant to 10 V.S.A. § 4255(c)(7).

Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on January 1, 2021.

(Committee Vote: 10-1-0)

Amendment to be offered by Rep. Brennan of Colchester to H. 716

Rep. Brennan of Colchester moves that the bill be amended in Sec. 1, 10 V.S.A. § 4255, by striking the section in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 10 V.S.A. § 4255 is amended to read:

§ 4255. LICENSE FEES

* * *

(c) A permanent or free license may be secured on application to the Department by a person qualifying as follows:

* * *

(7) A Vermont resident who is a certified citizen of a Native American Indian tribe that has been recognized by the State pursuant to 1 V.S.A. chapter 23 may receive a free permanent fishing license or, if the person qualifies for a hunting license, a free permanent combination hunting and fishing license upon submission of a current and valid tribal identification card.

* * *

Amendment to be offered by Rep. Helm of New Haven to H. 716

Rep. Helm of New Haven moves that the bill be amended in Sec. 3, EFFECTIVE DATE, by striking it in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 3. 10 V.S.A. § 4049 is amended to read:

§ 4049. FISH AND WILDLIFE TRUST FUND

(a) The General Assembly recognizes the importance to the people of Vermont of conserving Vermont's fish and wildlife resources. Therefore, in order to provide the opportunity for Vermonters to invest in the future of its fish and wildlife resources, there is hereby created a Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund within the Fish and Wildlife Fund which shall consist of:

(1) receipts from sales of any lifetime licenses created pursuant to subsection 4279(f) of this title;

(2) any gifts, grants, or contributions made to the Trust Fund;

(3) transfers from the Attorney General Complex Litigation Special Fund established pursuant to 3 V.S.A. § 167a in the amount of the previous year's revenue lost from the issuance of free permanent licenses pursuant to subsection § 4255(c)(7) of this title; and

(4) funds that may be appropriated by the General Assembly.

* * *

Sec. 4. 3 V.S.A. § 167a is amended to read:

§ 167a. COMPLEX LITIGATION SPECIAL FUND

(a) There is established the Complex Litigation Special Fund pursuant to 32 V.S.A. chapter 7, subchapter 5 to be available for expenditure by the Attorney General, as annually appropriated or authorized pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 511~~7~~. The funds shall:

(1) be used to pay nonroutine expenses, not otherwise budgeted, incurred in the investigation, prosecution, and defense of complex civil and criminal litigation. These expenses may include, for example, costs incurred for expert witnesses and for support staff and technology needed to review and manage voluminous documents in discovery and at trial in complex cases~~;~~

(2) be transferred, on or before March 1 annually, to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund to replace revenue lost from the issuance of free permanent licenses pursuant to 10 V.S.A. § 4255(c)(7).

* * *

Favorable

H. 956

An act relating to miscellaneous amendments to alcoholic beverage laws.

(Rep. Birong of Vergennes will speak for the Committee on General; Housing; and Military Affairs.)

Rep. Canfield of Fair Haven, for the Committee on Ways and Means, recommends the bill ought to pass.

(Committee Vote: 10-0-1)

S. 283

An act relating to the Town of Hartford's tax increment financing district

Rep. Anthony of Barre City, for the Committee on Ways and Means, recommends that the bill ought to pass in concurrence.

(Committee Vote: 10-1-0)

(For text see Senate Journal February 21, 2020, page 228)

Senate Proposal of Amendment

H. 947

An act relating to temporary municipal tax rate provisions in response to COVID-19

The Senate proposes to the House to amend the bill as follows:

First: In Sec. 1 (municipal tax rate; temporary authority), immediately following the words “the legislative body of a”, by striking out the word “municipality” and inserting in lieu thereof the following: city, town, or incorporated village

Second: In Sec. 1 (municipal tax rate; temporary authority), immediately following the words “provided that the”, by striking out the word “municipality” and inserting in lieu thereof the following: city, town, or incorporated village

(No House Amendments)

Action Postponed Until June 3, 2020

Favorable with Amendment

H. 162

An act relating to removal of buprenorphine from the misdemeanor crime of possession of a narcotic

H. 492

An act relating to establishing a homeless bill of rights and prohibiting discrimination against people without homes

H. 535

An act relating to approval of amendments to the charter of the Town of Brattleboro

H. 923

An act relating to entering a vehicle without legal authority or consent