

1 S.162

2 Representative Young of Greensboro moves that the House propose to the  
3 Senate that the bill be amended by striking out Sec. 1 and its reader assistance  
4 heading in their entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new reader assistance  
5 heading and a new Sec. 1 to read:

6 \* \* \* New Remote Worker Grant Program \* \* \*

7 Sec. 1. 2018 Acts and Resolves No. 197, Sec. 1 is amended to read:

8 Sec. 1. NEW REMOTE WORKER GRANT PROGRAM

9 (a) As used in this section:

10 (1) “New remote worker” means an individual who:

11 (A) is a full-time employee of a business with its domicile or primary  
12 place of business within or outside Vermont;

13 (B) becomes a full-time resident of this State on or after January 1,  
14 2019; and

15 (C) performs the majority of his or her employment duties remotely  
16 from a home office or a co-working space located in this State.

17 (2) “Qualifying remote worker expenses” means actual costs a new  
18 remote worker incurs for one or more of the following that are necessary to  
19 perform his or her employment duties:

20 (A) relocation to this State;

21 (B) computer software and hardware;

1 (C) broadband access or upgrade; and

2 (D) membership in a co-working or similar space.

3 (b)(1) The Agency of Commerce and Community Development shall  
4 design and implement the New Remote Worker Grant Program, which shall  
5 include a simple certification process to certify new remote workers and certify  
6 qualifying expenses for a grant under this section.

7 (2) A new remote worker may be eligible for a grant under the Program  
8 for qualifying remote worker expenses in the amount of not more than  
9 \$5,000.00 per year, not to exceed a total of \$10,000.00 per individual new  
10 remote worker over the life of the Program.

11 (3) The Agency shall award grants under the Program on a first-come,  
12 first-served basis, subject to available funding, ~~as follows:~~

13 ~~(A) not more than \$125,000.00 in calendar year 2019;~~

14 ~~(B) not more than \$250,000.00 in calendar year 2020;~~

15 ~~(C) not more than \$125,000.00 in calendar year 2021; and~~

16 ~~(D) not more than \$100,000.00 per year in each subsequent calendar~~  
17 ~~year, to the extent funding remains available.~~

18 (c) The Agency shall:

19 (1) adopt procedures for implementing the Program;

1           (2) promote awareness of the Program, including through coordination  
2           with relevant trade groups and by integration into the Agency’s economic  
3           development marketing campaigns; and

4           (3) adopt measurable goals, performance measures, and an audit strategy  
5           to assess the utilization and performance of the Program.

6           (d) On or before October 1, 2019, the Agency shall submit a report to the  
7           House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development and the Senate  
8           Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs  
9           concerning the implementation of this section, including:

10           (1) a description of the procedures adopted pursuant to subdivision  
11           (c)(1) of this section;

12           (2) the promotion and marketing of the Program pursuant to subdivision  
13           (c)(2) of this section; and

14           (3) any additional recommendations for qualifying remote worker  
15           expenses or qualifying workers that should be eligible under the Program, and  
16           any recommendations for the maximum amount of the grant.