

1 H.244

2 Introduced by Representatives Browning of Arlington and Sullivan of Dorset

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Appropriations; capital construction; grants; building community

6 grants; conservation; renewable energy

7 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require that in
8 fiscal years 2020 and 2021 the building communities grants programs, with the
9 exception of the Historic Barns Preservation Grant Program, shall: (1) award
10 grants to eligible communities or nonprofit organizations in the seven counties
11 with the highest annual average unemployment rates, as reported by the
12 Vermont Department of Labor and (2) prioritize projects that improve energy
13 conservation and efficiency or that create renewable energy generation
14 capacity.

15 An act relating to award requirements for building communities grants in
16 fiscal years 2020 and 2021

1 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

2 Sec. 1. BUILDING COMMUNITIES GRANTS; FISCAL YEAR 2020 AND
3 2021; AWARDS; PRIORITIES

4 (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in fiscal year 2020, the
5 building communities grants programs, established in 24 V.S.A. chapter 137,
6 shall:

7 (1) award grants to eligible communities or nonprofit organizations; and
8 (2) give priority to projects that improve energy conservation and
9 efficiency or that create renewable energy generation capacity.

10 (b) If any funds remain in fiscal year 2020 after prioritizing projects for
11 eligible communities and nonprofits as described in subsection (a) of this
12 section, these funds shall be carried over to grant awards in fiscal year 2021 for
13 eligible communities and nonprofit organizations using the same priority
14 system.

15 (c) The requirements for grant awards set forth in subsection (a) of this
16 section shall not apply to any grants awarded through the Historic Barns
17 Preservation Grant Program.

18 (d) As used in this section, “eligible communities or nonprofit
19 organizations” means any community or nonprofit organization located within
20 one of the seven counties with the highest annual average unemployment rates,
21 as reported by the Vermont Department of Labor.

- 1 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE
- 2 This act shall take effect on passage.