

1 Introduced by Committee on Government Operations

2 Date:

3 Subject: Communications union districts; formation; appointments;  
4 organization

5 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to authorize the  
6 legislative body of a municipality, rather than the eligible voters of a  
7 municipality at an annual or special meeting, to vote to form a communications  
8 union district during a declared state of emergency due to COVID-19. It also  
9 amends the requirements for the initial appointment of member representatives  
10 and alternates and the initial organizational meeting.

11 An act relating to communications union districts

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

13 Sec. 1. COMMUNICATIONS UNION DISTRICT FORMATION;

14 TEMPORARY AUTHORIZATION FOR MUNICIPAL

15 LEGISLATIVE BODIES

16 For purposes of formation of a communications union district and  
17 notwithstanding the provisions of 30 V.S.A. § 3051(b) requiring a vote by the  
18 eligible voters of a municipality at an annual or special meeting, during a  
19 declared state of emergency under 20 V.S.A. chapter 1 due to COVID-19, the

1 legislative body of a municipality may vote to enter into a communications  
2 union district under the provisions of 30 V.S.A. chapter 82.

3 Sec. 2. 30 V.S.A. § 3059 is amended to read:

4 § 3059. APPOINTMENT

5 Annually on or before the last Monday in April ~~commencing in the year~~  
6 ~~following the effective date of the district's creation~~, the legislative body of  
7 each member shall appoint a representative and one or more alternates to the  
8 governing board for one-year terms. Appointments of representatives and  
9 alternates shall be in writing, signed by the chair of the legislative body of the  
10 appointing member, and presented to the clerk of the district. The legislative  
11 body of a member, by majority vote, may replace its appointed representative  
12 or alternate at any time and shall promptly notify the district clerk of such  
13 replacement. Initial appointments shall be made within 60 days of the vote to  
14 form a district under subsection 3051(b) of this title and initial terms may be  
15 for less than one year.

16 Sec. 3. 30 V.S.A. § 3060 is amended to read:

17 § 3060. ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

18 Annually, on the second Tuesday in May following the appointments  
19 contemplated in section 3059 of this chapter, the board shall hold its  
20 organizational meeting. At such meeting, the board shall elect from among its  
21 appointed representatives a chair and a vice chair, each of whom shall hold

1 office for one year and until his or her successor is duly elected. The board's  
2 initial organizational meeting shall be held within 90 days of the vote to form a  
3 district under subsection 3051(b) of this title.

4 Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE

5 This act shall take effect on passage.