

1 TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

2 The Committee on Judiciary to which was referred House Bill No. 307  
3 entitled “An act relating to strict liability for damages caused by domestic  
4 dogs” respectfully reports that it has considered the same and recommends that  
5 the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in  
6 lieu thereof the following:

7 Sec. 1. DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL REGULATION; DOG BITE  
8 CLAIMS IN VERMONT; REPORT

9 On or before January 15, 2021, the Department of Financial Regulation  
10 shall report to the House Committee on Commerce and Economic  
11 Development, the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and  
12 General Affairs, and the House and Senate Committees on Judiciary with:

13 (1) the Department’s analysis of claims filed in Vermont regarding  
14 damages caused by domestic dogs, in comparison with national and regional  
15 statistics, as a part of its update of the underwriting criteria survey to determine  
16 the potential impact of a strict liability standard for damages caused by  
17 domestic dogs on insurance rates for dog owners in Vermont; and

18 (2) the Department’s analysis of those states that employ a strict liability  
19 standard for damages caused by domestic dogs and the impact of those laws on  
20 the states’ homeowners’ insurance rates and the availability of homeowners’  
21 insurance in those states.

1       Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

2           This act shall take effect on passage.

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8           (Committee vote: \_\_\_\_\_)

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Representative \_\_\_\_\_  
FOR THE COMMITTEE