

1 **[Proposed language from Reps. McCormack, Corcoran, and Burke]**

2 Sec. 20. STUDY OF METHODS TO INCREASE PUBLIC TRANSIT  
3 RIDERSHIP IN VERMONT

4 (a) The Agency of Transportation shall, in consultation with  
5 stakeholders, study methods to increase use of public transit, including  
6 commuter rail, in Vermont for both residents and visitors. This study shall  
7 review the Agency's current initiatives and those in other territories, states, and  
8 countries; review literature, marketing, and activities regarding methods to  
9 increase ridership with special emphasis on rural areas; determine unmet needs  
10 from current studies; examine the benefit of providing local connectivity to  
11 transit; and evaluate what factors affect public transit ridership in Vermont.

12 (b) The Agency shall deliver a written report of its findings and any  
13 recommendations, including where and how to make the most effective  
14 improvements in service and criteria to use to determine the priorities of  
15 investments, to the House and Senate Committees on Transportation on or  
16 before January 15, 2020.

17 (c) The Agency shall evaluate recommendations for potential inclusion in  
18 its fiscal year 2021 budget proposal and estimated funding necessary to  
19 achieve the recommendations for any new initiatives identified in the study.

20 (d) If the Agency receives a written request from the legislative bodies or  
21 departments of all municipalities along a portion of a railroad line owned by

1 the State by December 1, 2019 the Agency shall include an itemization of all  
2 costs to upgrade the portion of railroad line to commuter rail standards in its  
3 report.