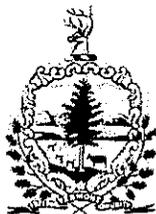


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STATE OF VERMONT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
AND FORESTRY

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MEMORANDUM

To: House Committee on Ways and Means
From: House Committee on Agriculture and Forestry
Date: February 14, 2019
Subject: Fee Bill

The House Committee on Agriculture and Forestry has been asked to comment on the proposed fees for producers growing hemp as described in the 2020 Fee Bill.

The Committee heard from the Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets concerning costs of administering a testing program for hemp, on which the amount needed to be raised by fees has been based. They have developed a tiered fee structure that reflects the value of the intended use of the hemp. The Agency has estimated the number of hemp producers, both producers of hemp for seed, grain, fiber or textiles and producers of floral material production intended for CBD and related products. The cost of administering testing was then divided by the estimated number of producers in each category to come up with the fees.

The House Committee on Agriculture supports the fees for hemp production proposed by the Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets.

On behalf of the House Committee on Agriculture and Forestry,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Carolyn W. Partridge'.

Carolyn Partridge, Chair