

1 TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

2 The Committee on Appropriations to which was referred the report of the
3 Committee on Finance on House Bill No. 63 entitled “An act relating to the
4 time frame for return of unclaimed beverage container deposits” respectfully
5 reports that it has considered the same and recommends that the Senate
6 propose to the House that the bill be amended as follows:

7 First: By striking Sec. 2 in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the
8 following:

9 Sec. 2. PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION PROCEEDING

10 (a) The Public Utility Commission shall open a proceeding, or continue an
11 existing proceeding, to consider the following:

12 (1) Creation of an all-fuels energy efficiency program. The Commission
13 shall consider whether to recommend that one or more entities should be
14 appointed to provide for the coordinated development, implementation, and
15 monitoring of efficiency, conservation, and related programs and services as to
16 all regulated fuels, unregulated fuels, and fossil fuels as defined in 30 V.S.A.
17 § 209(e)(3). The Commission shall consider all information it deems
18 appropriate and make recommendations as to:

19 (A) whether the appointment of an all-fuels efficiency entity or
20 entities to deliver the comprehensive and integrated programs and services
21 necessary to establish an all-fuels energy efficiency and conservation program

1 would, while continuing to further the objectives set forth in 30 V.S.A.

2 § 209(d)(3)(B):

3 (i) accelerate progress toward the State goals set forth in 10
4 V.S.A. §§ 578, 580, and 581;

5 (ii) accelerate progress toward the recommendations contained in
6 the State Comprehensive Energy Plan; and

7 (iii) further the objectives set forth in 30 V.S.A. § 8005(a)(3).

8 (B) the best model to create an all-fuels energy efficiency program
9 including whether to recommend:

10 (i) the appointment of one or more new entities; or

11 (ii) the appointment of one or more entities that are currently
12 providing efficiency and conservation programs pursuant to 30 V.S.A.

13 § 209(d)(2) and distribution utilities that are currently providing programs and
14 services pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 8005(a)(3).

15 (C) how to:

16 (i) develop and utilize a full cost-benefit, full life cycle accounting
17 method for analyzing energy policy and programs; and

18 (ii) employ metrics that assess positive and negative externalities,
19 including health impacts on individuals and the public.

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1 (2) Expansion of the programs and services that efficiency utilities may
2 provide. The Commission shall consider whether to recommend that
3 efficiency programs and services, whether provided by entities currently
4 providing efficiency and conservation programs pursuant to 30 V.S.A.
5 § 209(d)(2), distribution utilities currently providing programs and services
6 pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 8005(a)(3), or a new entity or entities recommended
7 pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection (a), should incorporate additional
8 technologies, services, and strategies, including:

9 (A) demand response;

10 (B) flexible load management;

11 (C) energy storage;

12 (D) reduction of fossil fuel use through electrification and the use of
13 renewable fuels and energy; and

14 (E) building shell improvement and weatherization.

15 (3) Funding.

16 (A) The Commission shall consider and recommend how best to
17 provide consistent, adequate, and equitable funding for efficiency,
18 conservation, and related programs and services, including:

19 (i) how to use existing or new funding sources to better support
20 existing efficiency and conservation programs and services, including those

1 described in Sec. 1 of this act, during the period the Commission is conducting
2 the proceeding pursuant to this subsection;

3 (ii) how to use existing or new funding sources to provide
4 sufficient funds to implement and support the Commission’s recommendations
5 made pursuant to subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection (a); and

6 (iii) whether Thermal Renewable Energy Certificates (T-RECs)
7 can be used to provide for the proper valuation of thermal load reduction
8 investments, to create a revenue stream to support thermal load reduction
9 work, and to evaluate the role of such work within the overall suite of energy
10 programs designed to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and generate
11 savings for Vermonters.

12 (B) In reaching its recommendations pursuant to subdivision (A) of
13 this subdivision (3), the Commission shall consider how any recommendation
14 may affect the financial and economic well-being of Vermonters.

15 (b) The existing Energy Efficiency Utility Orders of Appointment issued
16 by the Public Utility Commission shall not be altered or revoked in the
17 proceeding pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

18 (c) Process. The Commission shall schedule workshops and seek written
19 filings from all interested stakeholders and ensure that all stakeholders have an
20 opportunity to provide input. The Commission may use contested case
21 procedures if it deems appropriate.

1 (d) Reports. On or before:

2 (1) January 15, 2020, the Commission shall submit a preliminary report
3 to the House Committee on Energy and Technology and the Senate Committee
4 on Natural Resources and Energy concerning its progress and any preliminary
5 findings and recommendations as to subsection (a) of this section, including
6 recommendations as to subdivision (a)(3)(A) of this section, and any findings
7 and recommendations that may influence the scope and focus of Efficiency
8 Vermont’s 2021-23 Demand Resources Plan Proceeding; and

9 (2) January 15, 2021, the Commission shall submit a final written report
10 to the House Committee on Energy and Technology and the Senate Committee
11 on Natural Resources and Energy with its findings and detailed
12 recommendations as to subsection (a) of this section, including
13 recommendations for legislative action.

14 Second: In Sec. 6 (supplemental weatherization funding), after the words
15 “pursuant to subsection (a) of Sec.” by striking the number “6” and inserting in
16 lieu thereof the number 1.

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21 (Committee vote: _____)

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Senator _____

FOR THE COMMITTEE