

S. 163.

By the Committee on Econ. Dev., Housing and General Affairs. (Senator Clarkson for the Committee.)

An act relating to housing safety and rehabilitation.

Reported favorably by Senator Sirotkin for the Committee on Finance.

(Committee vote: 6-1-0)

Reported favorably with recommendation of amendment by Senator McCormack for the Committee on Appropriations.

The Committee recommends that the bill be amended as follows:

First: By striking out Sec. 7 in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec. 7 to read as follows:

Sec. 7. DUTIES CONTINGENT UPON FUNDING

(a) The following duties imposed on the Department of Housing and Community Development are contingent upon the appropriation of funds in fiscal year 2020 for the purposes specified:

(1) to implement a rental housing data management system pursuant to Sec. 4 of this act; the Department of Housing and Community Development shall begin the process of planning for a comprehensive rental housing data management system.

(2) to update and maintain the RentalCodes.org website, or a similar resource, that provides easy access to information for consumers, landlords, municipal officials, and the public concerning rental housing health and safety laws; and

(3) to design and implement a Vermont Rental Housing Incentive Program pursuant to Sec. 12 of this act.

(b) The following duties imposed on the Department of Health are contingent upon the appropriation of funds in fiscal year 2020 for the purposes specified:

(1) to create and manage an electronic system to collect and maintain health inspection reports pursuant to Sec. 5 of this act; the Department of Health shall provide a system for the collection of information provided in Sec.2 (a)(3) (B) of this act;

(2) to perform services associated with one additional full-time equivalent position, the duties of which include:

(B) providing additional training to town health officers concerning best practices, the health officer role and responsibilities, and rental housing health and safety issues;

(C) providing additional guidance and support to municipalities concerning difficult rental housing enforcement issues; and

Second: By striking out Sec. 13 in its entirety and re-designating Sec. 14 to be Sec. 13.