

1 TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

2 The Committee on Finance to which was referred Senate Bill No. 337  
3 entitled “An act relating to energy efficiency entities and programs to reduce  
4 greenhouse gas emissions in the thermal energy and transportation sectors”  
5 respectfully reports that it has considered the same and recommends that the  
6 bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in  
7 lieu thereof the following:

8 Sec. 1. ALLOWANCE OF THE USE OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY

9 CHARGE FUNDS FOR GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

10 REDUCTION PROGRAMS

11 (a) The electric resource acquisition budget for an entity appointed to  
12 provide electric energy efficiency and conservation programs and measures  
13 pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 209(d)(2)(A) for the calendar years 2021–2023 shall  
14 be determined pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 209(d)(3)(B). This section shall apply  
15 only if the entity’s total electric resource acquisition budget for 2021–2023  
16 does not exceed the entity’s total electric resource acquisition budget for 2018–  
17 2020.

18 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of law or order of the Public Utility  
19 Commission (PUC) to the contrary, the PUC shall authorize an entity pursuant  
20 to subsection (a) of this section to spend a portion of its electric resource  
21 acquisition budget, in an amount to be determined by the PUC but not to

1 exceed \$2,000,000.00 per year, on programs, measures, and services that  
2 reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the thermal energy or transportation  
3 sectors. Programs, measures, and services authorized pursuant to subsection  
4 (a) of this section shall:

5 (1) Reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the thermal energy or  
6 transportation sectors, or both.

7 (2) Have a nexus with electricity usage.

8 (3) Be additive and complementary to and shall not replace or be in  
9 competition with electric utility energy transformation projects pursuant to  
10 30 V.S.A. § 8005(a)(3) such that they result in the largest possible greenhouse  
11 gas emissions reductions in a cost-effective manner.

12 (4) Be proposed after the entity consults with any relevant State agency  
13 or department and shall not be duplicative or in competition with programs  
14 delivered by that agency or department.

15 (5) Be delivered on a statewide basis. However, if any of these funds are  
16 used for services specific to a retail electricity provider, the funds used for  
17 services to each retail electricity provider for the calendar years 2021–2023  
18 shall be reasonably proportionate to the energy efficiency charge collected in  
19 that territory.

1       (c) An entity that is approved to provide a program, measure, or service  
2       pursuant to this section shall provide the program, measure, or service in  
3       cooperation with a retail electricity provider.

4           (1) The entity shall not claim any savings and reductions in fossil fuel  
5       consumption and in greenhouse gas emissions by the customers of the retail  
6       electricity provider resulting from the program, measure, or service if the  
7       provider elects to offer the program, measure, or service pursuant to 30 V.S.A.  
8       § 8005(a)(3) unless the entity and provider agree upon how savings and  
9       reductions should be accounted for, apportioned, and claimed.

10          (2) The PUC shall develop standards and methods to appropriately  
11       measure the effectiveness of the programs, measures, and services in relation  
12       to the entity’s Demand Resources Plan proceeding.

13       (d) Any funds spent on programs, measures, and services pursuant to this  
14       section shall not be counted towards the calculation of funds used by a retail  
15       electricity provider for energy transformation projects pursuant to 30 V.S.A.  
16       § 8005(a)(3) and the calculation of project costs pursuant to 30 V.S.A.  
17       § 8005(a)(3)(C)(iv).

18       (e) On or before April 30, 2021 and every April 30 for three years  
19       thereafter, the PUC shall submit a written report to the House Committee on  
20       Energy and Technology and the Senate Committees on Natural Resources and

1 Energy and on Finance concerning any programs, measures, and services  
2 approved pursuant to this section.

3 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

4 This act shall take effect on passage and shall be repealed as of April 30,  
5 2024.

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

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Senator \_\_\_\_\_

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FOR THE COMMITTEE