

1 TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

2 The Committee on Government Operations to which was referred Senate
3 Bill No. 153 entitled “An act relating to creating the Vermont 250th
4 Commission” respectfully reports that it has considered the same and
5 recommends that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting
6 clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

7 Sec. 1. VERMONT 250TH COMMISSION

8 (a) Creation. There is created the Vermont 250th Commission.

9 (b) Membership. The Commission shall be composed of the following
10 members:

11 (1) one person from each of the counties of Addison, Bennington,
12 Chittenden, Rutland, Windham, and Windsor, appointed by the Governor from
13 lists that each county’s legislative delegation shall submit;

14 (2) one member of the Senate, not from any of the counties listed in
15 subdivision (b)(1) of this section, appointed by the Committee on Committees;

16 (3) one member of the House, not from any of the counties listed in
17 subdivision (b)(1) of this section, appointed by the Speaker of the House;

18 (4) the Executive Director of the Vermont Historical Society or
19 designee;

20 (5) the State Curator or designee;

21 (6) the State Historic Preservation Officer or designee;

1 (7) one person, appointed by the Vermont Commission on Native
2 American Affairs; and

3 (8) one person who is the author of published Vermont history books,
4 appointed by the Governor.

5 (c) Powers and duties. The Commission shall plan and sponsor events for
6 both the general public and the scholarly community in advance of and in
7 commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the State of Vermont and that also
8 look to the future of the State. The Commission may consult with the Agency
9 of Education to develop a semiquincentennial curriculum for elementary and
10 secondary school classrooms. The Commission may also consult with other
11 State agencies and departments, including the Agency of Agriculture, Food
12 and Markets and the Department of Tourism and Marketing; with federal
13 agencies; with the municipalities of the State; and with national and local
14 public and private sector organizations in this and other states for assistance
15 and support in planning and conducting commemorative semiquincentennial
16 activities.

17 (d) Meetings

18 (1) The Historic Preservation Officer or designee shall call the first
19 meeting of the Commission to occur on or before September 1, 2020.

20 (2) The Committee shall select a chair from among its members at the
21 first meeting.

1 (3) A majority of the membership shall constitute a quorum.

2 (4) A member attending remotely shall count toward the quorum and
3 cast a vote.

4 (5) The Commission shall not be limited to a specific number of
5 meetings. However, it shall not incur expenses in excess of its appropriated
6 funds.

7 (6) The Commission shall cease to exist on December 31, 2027.

8 (e) Compensation and reimbursement.

9 (1) For attendance at meetings during adjournment of the General
10 Assembly, a legislative member of the Commission serving in his or her
11 capacity as a legislator shall be entitled to per diem compensation and
12 reimbursement of expenses pursuant to 2 V.S.A. § 406. These payments shall
13 be made from monies appropriated to the General Assembly.

14 (2) Other members of the Commission shall be entitled to per diem
15 compensation and reimbursement of expenses as permitted under 32 V.S.A.
16 § 1010. These payments shall be made from monies appropriated to the
17 Commission.

18 Sec.2. EFFECTIVE DATE

19 This act shall take effect on passage.

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3 (Committee vote: _____)

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Senator _____

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FOR THE COMMITTEE