

1 TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

2 The Committee on Government Operations to which was referred Senate
3 Bill No. 198 entitled “An act relating to an enforceable State Code of Ethics”
4 respectfully reports that it has considered the same and recommends that the
5 bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in
6 lieu thereof the following:

7 Sec. 1. STATE ETHICS COMMISSION; PROPOSAL

8 (a) On or before November 15, 2020, the State Ethics Commission shall
9 submit to the Senate and House Committees on Government Operations:

10 (1) a proposed State Code of Ethics for statutory enactment that would
11 apply to the Executive Branch and to the Legislative Branch for non-core
12 legislative duties; and

13 (2) options for implementation and enforcement of that proposed State
14 Code of Ethics.

15 (b) The State Ethics Commission shall seek input from the Executive and
16 Legislative Branches, advocacy groups, and the public prior to submitting its
17 recommendations described in subsection (a) of this section.

1 Sec. 2. 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 79, Sec. 13 is amended to read:

2 Sec. 13. STATE ETHICS COMMISSION FUNDING SOURCE

3 SURCHARGE; REPEAL

4 (a) Surcharge.

5 (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of 3 V.S.A. § 2283(c) setting forth
6 the purpose and rate of charges collected in the Human Resource Services
7 Internal Service Fund, in fiscal year 2018 and thereafter, a surcharge of up to
8 2.3 percent, but no greater than the cost of the activities of the State Ethics
9 Commission set forth in Sec. 7 of this act, on the per-position portion of the
10 charges authorized in 3 V.S.A. § 2283(c)(2) shall be assessed to all Executive
11 Branch agencies, departments, and offices and shall be paid by all assessed
12 entities solely with State funds.

13 (2) The amount collected shall be accounted for within the Human
14 Resource Services Internal Service Fund and used solely for the purposes of
15 funding the activities of the State Ethics Commission set forth in Sec. 7 of
16 this act.

17 (b) Repeal. This section shall be repealed on ~~June 30, 2020~~ July 1, 2021.

18 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

19 This act shall take effect on passage.

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(Committee vote: _____)

Senator _____

FOR THE COMMITTEE