

**Act No. 64 (H.525) Sec. 6. Wetlands Authority Under RAPs**

1 Sec. 6. 6 V.S.A. § 4810a is amended to read:

2 § 4810a. REQUIRED AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES; REVISION

3 (a) ~~On or before September 15, 2016, the~~ The Secretary of Agriculture,  
4 Food and Markets shall ~~file under 3 V.S.A. § 841 a final proposal of a rule~~  
5 ~~amending~~ maintain the required agricultural practices in order to improve  
6 water quality in the State, assure practices on all farms eliminate adverse  
7 impacts to water quality, and implement the small farm certification program  
8 required by section 4871 of this title. At a minimum, the ~~amendments to the~~  
9 required agricultural practices shall:

10 \* \* \*

11 (b) ~~On or before January 15, 2018, the~~ The Secretary of Agriculture, Food  
12 and Markets shall ~~amend by rule~~ maintain the required agricultural practices in  
13 order to include requirements for reducing nutrient contribution to waters of  
14 the State from subsurface tile drainage. Upon adoption of requirements for  
15 subsurface tile drainage, the Secretary may require an existing subsurface tile  
16 drain to comply with the requirements of the RAPs for subsurface tile drainage  
17 upon a determination that compliance is necessary to reduce adverse impacts to  
18 water quality from the subsurface tile drain.

19 (c) The Secretary shall amend the required agricultural practices to include  
20 requirements for activities occurring in areas that are excluded from regulation  
21 by the Agency of Natural Resources under 10 V.S.A. § 902 because the area is  
22 used to grow food or crops in connection with farming activities.