

H.512

An act relating to modernizing land records and notarial acts law

The Senate proposes to the House to amend the bill as follows:

First: In Sec. 2, 27 V.S.A. chapter 5, subchapter 8, by striking out section 625 in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new section 625 to read as follows:

§ 625. STANDARDS AND BEST PRACTICES

To ensure consistency in the standards and best practices of, and the technologies used by, recorders in this State, all recordings of deeds and other instruments or evidences respecting real estate, regardless of format, shall comply with standards and best practices issued by the Vermont State Archives and Records Administration pursuant to 3 V.S.A. § 117. Recorders shall seek services from the Vermont State Archives and Records Administration to comply with the standards and best practices issued in accordance with this subchapter. No provisions of this subchapter shall be implemented unless a recorder has complied with the standards and best practices issued by the Vermont State Archives and Records Administration in accordance with this subchapter.

Second: In Sec. 3, Vermont State Archives and Records Administration; report, by striking out subsection (a) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new subsection (a) to read as follows:

(a)(1) On or before January 15, 2024, the Vermont State Archives and Records Administration shall submit a report to the House Committees on Commerce and Economic Development and on Government Operations and the Senate Committees on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs and on Government Operations concerning the fiscal, governance, and operational sustainability of uniform approaches to the modernization of the acceptance, recording, and availability of deeds and other property records, regardless of format.

(2) For the report required by this subsection, the Vermont State Archives and Records Administration shall consult with:

(A) the Joint Fiscal Office;

(B) the Vermont League of Cities and Towns;

(C) the Vermont Municipal Clerks' and Treasurers' Association;

(D) representatives from the banking, bar, title insurance, and real estate industry; and

(E) other interested parties.

Third: In Sec. 5 (effective date), by striking Sec. 5 in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a Sec. 6 to read as follows:

Sec. 6. EFFECTIVE DATES

(a) This section and Sec. 4 (Vermont State Archives and Records Administration; position) shall take effect on passage.

(b) Secs. 1, 2, 3, and 5 shall take effect on July 1, 2022.