1	H.605
2	Introduced by Representatives Dolan of Waitsfield, Christie of Hartford,
3	Noyes of Wolcott, Ode of Burlington, and Sheldon of
4	Middlebury
5	Referred to Committee on
6	Date:
7	Subject: Conservation and development; water pollution control; Clean Water
8	Fund; ECO AmeriCorps funding
9	Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require the
10	Clean Water Board to recommend for annual appropriation at least
11	\$200,000.00 annually to fund ECO AmeriCorps members who are assigned to
12	clean water programs in the State.
13	An act relating to clean water funding
14	It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:
15	Sec. 1. 10 V.S.A. § 1389 is amended to read
16	§ 1389. CLEAN WATER BOARD
17	* * *
18	(d) Powers and duties of the Clean Water Board. The Clean Water Board
19	shall have the following powers and authority:

BILL AS INTRODUCED 2022

1	(1) The Clean Water Board shall recommend to the Secretary of
2	Administration the appropriate allocation of funds from the Clean Water Fund
3	for the purposes of developing the State budget required to be submitted to the
4	General Assembly under 32 V.S.A. § 306. All recommendations from the
5	Board should be intended to achieve the greatest water quality gain for the
6	investment. The recommendations of the Clean Water Board shall be open to
7	inspection and copying under the Public Records Act, and the Clean Water
8	Board shall submit to the Senate Committees on Appropriations, on Finance,
9	on Agriculture, and on Natural Resources and Energy and the House
10	Committees on Appropriations, on Ways and Means, on Agriculture and
11	Forestry, and on Natural Resources, Fish, and Wildlife a copy of any
12	recommendations provided to the Governor.
13	* * *
14	(e) Priorities. In making recommendations under subsection (d) of this
15	section regarding the appropriate allocation of funds from the Clean Water
16	Fund, the Board shall prioritize as follows:
17	(1) As a first priority, make recommendations regarding funding for the
18	following grants and programs, which shall each be given equal priority:
19	(A) grants to clean water service providers to fund the reasonable
20	costs associated with the inspection, verification, operation, and maintenance
21	of clean water projects in a basin;

1	(B) the Water Quality Restoration Formula Grant under section 925
2	of this title;
3	(C) the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets' agricultural water
4	quality programs; and
5	(D) the Water Quality Enhancement Grants under section 926 of this
6	title at a funding level of at least 20 percent of the annual balance of the Clean
7	Water Fund, provided that the maximum amount recommended under this
8	subdivision (D) in any year shall not exceed \$ 5,000,000.00; and
9	(E) funding to partners for basin planning, basin water quality
10	council participation, education, and outreach as provided in subdivision
11	1253(d)(3) of this title, provided funding shall be at least \$500,000.00; and
12	(F) funding, including cost-of-living expenses based on need, for
13	ECO AmeriCorps members who are assigned to clean water programs in the
14	State for the purposes of data collection, mapping, and management of
15	environmental health and safety, provided funding shall be at least
16	<u>\$200,000.00 annually</u> .
17	* * *
18	Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE
19	This act shall take effect on passage.