

Vermont Senate Natural Resources Committee 115 State Street Montpelier, VT 05633-5501 February 9, 2022

Subject: Support of S.148

Dear Sen. Christopher Bray, Chair

Sen. Richard Westman, Vice Chair

Sen. Mark A. MacDonald

Sen. Brian Campion

Sen. Dick McCormack

On behalf of the Vermont Chapter of the Sierra Club, I am writing to express support for the passage of S.148, an act relating to environmental justice in Vermont. We support the amendments proposed by the Conservation Law Foundation and urge your committee to proceed with the passage.

At the Sierra Club, we are diligently working to explore the integration of social justice and environmental concerns. Our work seeks to provide an effective framework for addressing the damage, risk, and discrimination facing so many communities today. By encouraging, connecting, and advising grassroots and community organizations, we hope to foster the growth of the environmental justice movement so that oppressed communities will find justice and everyone can experience the benefits of a healthy and sustainable future.

Across the country, we have a growing number of regional environmental justice programs. From helping with rebuilding post-Katrina New Orleans to protecting sacred Navajo sites in Arizona and serving as a voice for Appalachian communities suffering from the abuses of Big Coal, our regional programs are working to make a difference in their communities and beyond.

Through our work in environmental justice, the Sierra Club is committed to leading the way toward just sustainability and a better tomorrow. We hope that the state of Vermont

join us and our partners to ensure that environmental justice becomes a state priority. If you have any questions regarding our support please feel free to contact me at <a href="mailto:robb.kidd@sierraclub.org">robb.kidd@sierraclub.org</a>.

Thank you for acting on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Robb Kidd Vermont Sierra Club Conservation Program Manager

