

1 TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

2 The Committee on Appropriations to which was referred Senate Bill
3 No. 210 entitled “An act relating to rental housing health and safety and
4 affordable housing” respectfully reports that it has considered the same and
5 recommends that the bill, as amended by the Committee on Economic
6 Development, Housing and General Affairs, be further amended as follows:

7 First: By striking out Secs. 4 (DPS positions) and 5 (DHCD positions) in
8 their entireties and inserting in lieu thereof new Secs. 4–5 to read as follows:

9 Sec. 4. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY; POSITIONS

10 (a) The Department of Public Safety is authorized to create five full-time
11 classified Inspector positions in order to conduct rental housing health and
12 safety inspections and enforcement pursuant to 20 V.S.A. chapter 172.

13 (b) The Department may hire additional Inspectors authorized by this
14 section to the extent funds become available from the Rental Housing Safety
15 Special Fund created and maintained pursuant to 20 V.S.A. § 2678(d).

16 Sec. 5. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY

17 DEVELOPMENT; POSITIONS

18 (a) The Department of Housing and Community Development is
19 authorized to create one full-time classified position and one half-time
20 classified position to design and implement the registry created in, and to
21 administer and enforce the registry requirements of, 20 V.S.A. § 2678.

1 (b) The Department may hire additional staff authorized by this section to
2 the extent funds become available from the Rental Housing Safety Special
3 Fund created and maintained pursuant to 20 V.S.A. § 2678(d).

4 Second: By striking out Secs. 14a (FY 2022 appropriation; VRHIP); 14b
5 (FY 2023 appropriation; VRHIP); and 15 (effective dates) in their entirety
6 and inserting in lieu thereof two new sections to be Secs. 15–16 to read as
7 follows:

8 Sec. 15. APPROPRIATIONS

9 (a) Purpose. The purpose of the appropriations in this section are:

10 (1) to respond to the far-reaching public health and negative economic
11 impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

12 (2) to ensure that Vermonters and Vermont communities have an
13 adequate supply of safe, affordable housing.

14 (b) In fiscal year 2022, the amount of \$20,400,000.00 is appropriated from
15 the America Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) – Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery
16 Funds as follows:

17 (1) \$100,000.00 to the Department of Public Safety as one-time startup
18 funding to hire one or more Inspector positions authorized pursuant to Sec. 4
19 of this act.

1 (2) \$300,000.00 to the Department of Housing and Community
2 Development as one-time startup funding to hire one or more of the positions
3 authorized pursuant to Sec. 5 of this act.

4 (3) \$20,000,000.00 to the Department of Housing and Community
5 Development to implement the Vermont Rental Housing Investment Program
6 created in 10 V.S.A. § 699.

7 Sec. 16. EFFECTIVE DATES

8 (a) This section and the following sections shall take effect on passage:

9 (1) Sec. 1 (DPS authority for rental housing health and safety; rental
10 housing registration).

11 (2) Sec. 4 (DPS positions).

12 (3) Sec. 5 (DHCD positions).

13 (4) Sec. 6 (conforming changes to Department of Health statutes).

14 (5) Sec. 7 (DPS rulemaking authority and transition provisions).

15 (6) Secs. 8–10 (Vermont Rental Housing Investment Program).

16 (7) Secs. 11–14 (Vermont Homeownership Revolving Loan Fund).

17 (8) Sec. 15 (FY 2022 ARPA appropriations).

18 (b) Sec. 2 (administrative penalty for failure to register rental housing) shall
19 take effect on July 1, 2023.

1 (c) Sec. 3 (repeal of registration exemption for housing provided as a
2 benefit of farm employment) shall take effect on July 1, 2025.

3 and that when so amended the bill ought to pass.

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10 (Committee vote: _____)

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Senator _____

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FOR THE COMMITTEE