

1 TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

2 The Committee on Government Operations to which was referred House
3 Bill No. 512 entitled “An act relating to modernizing land records and notarial
4 acts law” respectfully reports that it has considered the same and recommends
5 that the Senate propose to the House that the bill be amended as follows:

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

9 § 625. STANDARDS AND BEST PRACTICES

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

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

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

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

14 (A) the Joint Fiscal Office;

15 (B) the Vermont League of Cities and Towns;

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

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

19 (E) other interested parties.

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

1 Sec. 6. EFFECTIVE DATES

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

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

5

6 (Committee vote: _____)

7

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Senator _____

9

FOR THE COMMITTEE