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H.667

Introduced by Representatives Casey of Montpelier, Anthony of Barre City,  
Birong of Vergennes, Branagan of Georgia, Burke of  
Brattleboro, Chase of Chester, Christie of Hartford, Coffey of  
Guilford, Elder of Starksboro, Farlice-Rubio of Barnet,  
Harrison of Chittenden, Headrick of Burlington, Hooper of  
Burlington, Howard of Rutland City, LaBounty of Lyndon,  
Logan of Burlington, McCann of Montpelier, McGill of  
Bridport, Mihaly of Calais, Nugent of South Burlington,  
Priestley of Bradford, Rice of Dorset, Sammis of Castleton,  
Troiano of Stannard, and Williams of Barre City

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Commerce and trade; international trade agreements; Vermont-  
Ireland Trade Commission

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to create the  
Vermont-Ireland Trade Commission to advance bilateral trade, investment, and  
cultural exchange between Vermont and Ireland.

An act relating to the creation of the Vermont-Ireland Trade Commission

1 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

2 Sec. 1. 9 V.S.A. chapter 111B is added to read:

3 CHAPTER 111B. TRADE COMMISSIONS

4 § 4129. VERMONT-IRELAND TRADE COMMISSION

5 (a) The Vermont-Ireland Trade Commission is established to advance  
6 bilateral trade and investment between Vermont and Ireland. The Commission  
7 shall consist of nine members to be appointed as follows:

8 (1) three members, appointed by the Governor;

9 (2) three members, appointed by the Speaker of the House; and

10 (3) three members, appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the  
11 Senate.

12 (b) The purposes of the Vermont-Ireland Trade Commission are to:

13 (1) advance bilateral trade and investment between Vermont and  
14 Ireland;

15 (2) initiate joint action on policy issues of mutual interest to Vermont  
16 and Ireland;

17 (3) promote business and academic exchanges between Vermont and  
18 Ireland;

19 (4) encourage mutual economic support between Vermont and Ireland;

20 (5) encourage mutual investment in the infrastructure of Vermont and  
21 Ireland; and

1           (6) address other issues as determined by the Commission.

2           (c) The members of the Commission shall be appointed for terms of four  
3 years each and shall continue to serve until their successors are appointed,  
4 except that in order to achieve staggered terms, the three members appointed  
5 by the Governor shall serve initial terms of two years each and the three  
6 members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall serve  
7 initial terms of three years each. Members may be reappointed.

8           (d) A vacancy in the membership of the Commission shall be filled by the  
9 relevant appointing authority within 90 days after the vacancy.

10          (e) The Commission shall select a chair from among its members at the  
11 first meeting. The Chair, as appropriate, may appoint from among the  
12 Commission members subcommittees or a subcommittee at the Chair's  
13 discretion. A majority of the members of the Commission shall constitute a  
14 quorum for purposes of transacting the business of the Commission.

15          (f) The Commission shall submit a written report with its findings, results,  
16 and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly within one  
17 year of its initial organizational meeting and on or before November 1 of each  
18 succeeding year for the activities of the current calendar year.

19          (g) The Vermont-Ireland Trade Commission is authorized to raise funds,  
20 through direct solicitation or other fundraising events, alone or with other  
21 groups, and accept gifts, grants, and bequests from individuals, corporations,

1 foundations, governmental agencies, and public and private organizations and  
2 institutions, to defray the Commission's administrative expenses and to carry  
3 out its purposes as set forth in this chapter. The funds, gifts, grants, or  
4 bequests received pursuant to this section shall be deposited in a bank account  
5 and allocated annually by the Agency of Commerce and Community  
6 Development to defray the Commission's administrative expenses and carry  
7 out its purposes.

8 Sec. 2. INITIAL APPOINTMENT DEADLINE FOR VERMONT-IRELAND  
9 TRADE COMMISSION

10 Initial appointments to the Vermont-Ireland Trade Commission shall be  
11 made not later than October 1, 2024.

12 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

13 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.