

House Proposal of Amendment

S. 80

An act relating to miscellaneous environmental conservation subjects

The House proposes to the Senate to amend the bill as follows:

First: By adding Secs. 6a and 6b to read as follows:

Sec. 6a. USE OF VERMONT ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

AGENCY (EPA) POLLUTION CONTROL REVOLVING FUND

Notwithstanding the authority of the Secretary of Natural Resources under 24 V.S.A. § 4753 to transfer up to \$275,000.00 from the Vermont EPA Pollution Control Revolving Fund to the Vermont Wastewater and Potable Water Revolving Fund, the Secretary of Natural Resources shall not transfer any funds from the EPA Pollution Control Revolving Fund to the Vermont Wastewater and Potable Water Revolving Fund after July 1, 2024 until:

(1) the Secretary of Natural Resources submits the comprehensive fee report required by the General Assembly for each Agency of Natural Resources fee in existence on July 1, 2023;

(2) the Secretary of Natural Resources submits the report required under Sec. 6b (report on EPA revolving funds) of this act; and

(3) an act of the General Assembly authorizes transfers from the Vermont EPA Pollution Control Revolving Fund to the Vermont Wastewater and Potable Water Revolving Fund to continue after July 1, 2024.

Sec. 6b. ANR REPORT ON REVOLVING LOAN FUNDS

On or before January 15, 2024, the Secretary of Natural Resources shall submit to the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions and the Senate Committee on Institutions a report summarizing the status of the Vermont Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Pollution Control Revolving Fund and the Vermont Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Drinking Water State Revolving Fund. The report shall include an accounting of the Funds, including the following information for each Fund as it existed at the end of fiscal year 2023:

(1) the balance of funds in the Fund;

(2) the amount of funds loaned or obligated from the Fund;

(3) the amount of funds repaid to the Fund in fiscal year 2023; and

(4) the amount of funds due for repayment to the Fund.

Second: By striking out Sec. 7, 2018 Acts and Resolves No. 185, Sec. 12, in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec. 7 and reader assistance heading to read as follows:

* * * Riparian Protection * * *

Sec. 7. ANR REPORT ON RIPARIAN PROTECTION PROGRAM

The Secretary of Natural Resources shall conduct a stakeholder process to develop recommendations on the implementation of a riparian protection program in the State. The stakeholder process shall address what elements of a riparian protection program should be implemented to protect water quality and aquatic habitat and what funding would be required to implement a riparian protection program. On or before December 15, 2023, the Secretary shall submit its recommendations on the implementation of a riparian protection program to the House Committee on Environment and Energy and the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy.

Third: In Sec. 16, 29 V.S.A. § 405(d), in subsection (d), after “on the date that” and before “is signed” by inserting the word “it”