

1 TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

2 The Committee on Environment and Energy to which was referred Senate
3 Bill No. 259 entitled “An act relating to climate change cost recovery”
4 respectfully reports that it has considered the same and recommends that the
5 House propose to the Senate that the bill be amended as follows:

6 First: In Sec. 2, 10 V.S.A. chapter 24A, in section 596, in subdivision (21),
7 after “the Fund and the Program and” and before “a climate change adaptation
8 project” by striking out the words “as part of the support of” and inserting in
9 lieu thereof the words “to pay for”

10 Second: In Sec. 2, 10 V.S.A. chapter 24A, in section 598, in subsection (d),
11 after “Inventories as applied to the” and before “fossil fuel volume data” by
12 striking out the words “best publicly available”

13 and in section 598, by striking out subdivision (g)(2)(C) in its entirety and
14 inserting in lieu thereof a new subdivision (g)(2)(C) to read as follows:

15 (C) Each subsequent installment shall be paid one year from the
16 initial payment each subsequent year and shall be equal to 10 percent of the
17 total cost recovery demand amount. The Secretary may charge reasonable
18 interest on each installment payment or a payment delayed for any other reason
19 and, at the Secretary’s discretion, may adjust the amount of a subsequent
20 installment payment or a payment delayed for any other reason to reflect
21 increases or decreases in the Consumer Price Index.

1 and in section 598, in subsection (i), in the first sentence, after “with the
2 Secretary within” and before “days following issuance” by striking out the
3 number “15” and inserting in lieu thereof the number “30”

4 and in section 598, by striking out subsection (j) in its entirety and inserting
5 in lieu thereof a new subsection (j) to read as follows:

6 (j) Nothing in this section shall be construed to supersede or diminish in
7 any way any other remedies available to a person, as that term is defined in 1
8 V.S.A. § 128, at common law or under statute.

9 Third: In Sec. 2, 10 V.S.A. chapter 24A, in section 599a, in subdivision
10 (b)(1), after “adopting methodologies using” and before “available science” by
11 striking out the words “the best”

12 Fourth: By striking out Sec. 7, effective date, in its entirety and inserting in
13 lieu thereof a new Sec. 7 to read as follows:

14 Sec. 7. EFFECTIVE DATES

15 This act shall take effect July 1, 2024, except that, notwithstanding 1 V.S.A.
16 §§ 213 and 214, the liability of responsible parties for cost recovery demands
17 under 10 V.S.A. chapter 24A shall apply retroactively to the covered period
18 beginning January 1, 1995.

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2 (Committee vote: _____)

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Representative _____

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FOR THE COMMITTEE