

1 S.18

2 Representative Marcotte of Coventry moves that the report of the
3 Committee on Human Services be amended as follows:

4 First: By adding a new section to be Sec. 14a to read as follows:

5 Sec. 14a. INVESTIGATOR POSITION CREATED; APPROPRIATION;
6 REPORT

7 (a) One new permanent classified position, Investigator, is established in
8 the Department of Liquor and Lottery to enforce, and to investigate potential
9 violations of, Vermont laws relating to direct-to-consumer sales and delivery
10 of alcohol and tobacco products, including 7 V.S.A. §§ 277, 279, 280, and
11 1010.

12 (b)(1) The sum of \$160,000.00 is appropriated to the Department of Liquor
13 and Lottery from the Tobacco Litigation Settlement Fund in fiscal year 2025 to
14 fund the Investigator position established in subsection (a) of this section.

15 (2) It is the intent of the General Assembly that the position established
16 in subsection (a) of this section should be funded from the Tobacco Litigation
17 Settlement Fund for fiscal years 2025 and 2026. It is also the intent of the
18 General Assembly that, beginning in fiscal year 2027, the funding for the
19 Investigator position should be built into base funding for the Department of
20 Liquor and Lottery’s budget, with the amount of the salary and benefits for the
21 Investigator position offset by an equivalent amount of the revenue generated

1 to the Department or to the Office of the Attorney General, or both, by the
2 Investigator’s activities in enforcing and in investigating violations of Vermont
3 law, with the remainder of the revenue deposited into the General Fund.

4 (c) If the revenue generated by the Investigator’s activities becomes
5 insufficient to cover the cost of the position in the future, the Department of
6 Liquor and Lottery shall propose eliminating the position as part of its next
7 budget or budget adjustment presentation to the General Assembly.

8 (d)(1) On or before March 15, 2025, the Department of Liquor and Lottery
9 shall provide an update to the House Committees on Government Operations
10 and Military Affairs and on Human Services and the Senate Committees on
11 Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs and on Health and
12 Welfare regarding the status of its implementation of the new Investigator
13 position.

14 (2) Annually on or before December 15, the Department of Liquor and
15 Lottery shall report to the House Committees on Government Operations and
16 Military Affairs and on Human Services and the Senate Committees on
17 Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs and on Health and
18 Welfare on the impact of the Investigator’s activities on compliance with
19 Vermont’s laws relating to direct-to-consumer sales and delivery of alcohol
20 and tobacco products.

1 Second: In Sec. 15, effective dates, by adding a new subsection to be
2 subsection (d) to read as follows:

3 (d) Sec. 14a (Investigator position created; appropriation; report) shall take
4 effect on July 1, 2024, with the first report under subdivision (d)(2) due on or
5 before December 15, 2025.