

1 TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

2 The Committee on Agriculture to which was referred House Bill No. 706
3 entitled “An act relating to banning the use of neonicotinoid pesticides”
4 respectfully reports that it has considered the same and recommends that the
5 Senate propose to the House that the bill be amended as follows:

6 First: In Sec. 2, 6 V.S.A. § 1101, in subdivision (14), after “loss to
7 agricultural crops” and before “, including any exotic” by striking out or turf
8 and by striking out subdivision 16 (definition of “turf”) in its entirety

9 Second: In Sec. 3, 6 V.S.A. § 1105b, by striking out subsection (c) in its
10 entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new subsection (c) to read as follows:

11 (c) A written exemption order issued under subsection (b) of this section
12 shall:

13 (1) specify the types of neonicotinoid treated article seeds to which the
14 exemption order applies, the date on which the exemption order takes effect;
15 the exemption order’s duration; and the exemption order’s geographic scope,
16 which may include specific farms, fields, or properties; and

17 (2) provide a detailed evaluation of the agricultural seed market,
18 including a determination either that the purchase of seeds that comply with
19 subsection (a) of this section would cause agricultural producers undue
20 financial hardship or that there is an insufficient amount of commercially

1 available seed not treated with neonicotinoid pesticides to supply agricultural
2 producers.

3 and in subsection (e), in the last sentence, after “The General Assembly
4 shall” and before “post the written exemption order” by striking out “manage a
5 written exemption order submitted under this section in the same manner as a
6 report to the General Assembly”

7 Third: In Sec. 4, 6 V.S.A. § 1105c, in subdivision (a)(3), by inserting and
8 after the semicolon

9 and, subdivision (a)(4), by striking out “and” after the semicolon

10 and by striking out subdivision (a)(5) in its entirety

11 and by striking out subsection (c) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof
12 a new subsection (c) to read as follows:

13 (c) A written exemption order issued under subsection (b) of this section
14 shall:

15 (1) specify the neonicotinoid pesticides, uses, and crops, plants, or turf
16 to which the exemption order applies; the date on which the exemption order
17 takes effect; the exemption order’s duration; and the exemption order’s
18 geographic scope, which may include specific farms, fields, or properties;

19 (2) provide a detailed evaluation determining that an agricultural
20 emergency or an environmental emergency exists; and

1 (3) no other less harmful pesticide or pest management practice would
2 be effective in addressing the agricultural emergency or an environmental
3 emergency.

4 and in subsection (e), in the last sentence, after “The General Assembly
5 shall” and before “post the written exemption order” by striking out “manage a
6 written exemption order submitted under this section in the same manner as a
7 report to the General Assembly”

8 Fourth: In Sec. 8, (Effective Dates), in subdivision (c), by striking out
9 “2029” where it appears and inserting in lieu thereof 2031

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11 (Committee vote: _____)

12

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Senator _____

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FOR THE COMMITTEE