

1 TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

2 The Committee on Appropriations to which was referred House Bill No.
3 868 entitled “An act relating to the fiscal year 2025 Transportation Program
4 and miscellaneous changes to laws related to transportation” respectfully
5 reports that it has considered the same and recommends that the report of the
6 Committee on Transportation be amended as follows:

7 First: By striking out Sec. 24, 19 V.S.A. §§ 2402 and 2043, and its reader
8 assistance heading, in their entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the
9 following:

10 * * * Complete Streets; Traffic Calming Measures; Designated Centers * * *

11 Sec. 24. 19 V.S.A. §§ 2402 and 2403 are amended to read:

12 § 2402. STATE POLICY

13 (a) Agency of Transportation funded, designed, or funded and designed
14 projects shall seek to increase and encourage more pedestrian, bicycle, and
15 public transit trips, with the State goal to promote intermodal access to the
16 maximum extent feasible, which will help the State meet the transportation-
17 related recommendations outlined in the Comprehensive Energy Plan (CEP)
18 issued under 30 V.S.A. § 202b and the recommendations of the Vermont
19 Climate Action Plan (CAP) issued under 10 V.S.A. § 592.

20 (b) Except in the case of projects or project components involving unpaved
21 highways, for all transportation projects and project phases managed by the

1 Agency or a municipality, including planning, development, construction, or
2 maintenance, it is the policy of this State for the Agency and municipalities, as
3 applicable, to incorporate complete streets principles that:

4 (1) serve individuals of all ages and abilities, including vulnerable users
5 as defined in 23 V.S.A. § 4(81);

6 (2) follow state-of-the-practice design guidance; ~~and~~

7 (3) are sensitive to the surrounding community, including current and
8 planned buildings, parks, and trails and current and expected transportation
9 needs; and

10 (4) when desired by the municipality or specifically identified in the
11 regional plan:

12 (A) implement street design for purposes of calming and slowing
13 traffic in State-designated centers under 24 V.S.A. chapter 76A; and

14 (B) support the land uses that develop and evolve in tandem with
15 transit and accessibility, including those that provide enhanced benefits to the
16 public, such as through improved health and access to employment, services,
17 and housing.

18 § 2403. PROJECTS NOT INCORPORATING COMPLETE STREETS

19 PRINCIPLES

20 (a) State projects. A State-managed project shall incorporate complete
21 streets principles unless the project manager makes a written determination,

1 supported by documentation, that one or more of the following circumstances
2 exist:

3 * * *

4 (2) The cost of incorporating complete streets principles is
5 disproportionate to the need or probable use as determined by factors including
6 land use, current and projected user volumes, population density, crash data,
7 historic and natural resource constraints, and maintenance requirements. The
8 Agency shall consult local and regional plans, as appropriate, in assessing
9 these and any other relevant factors. If the project manager bases the written
10 determination required under this subsection in whole or in part on this
11 subdivision then the project manager shall provide a supplemental written
12 determination with specific details on costs, needs, and probable uses, as
13 applicable. The supplemental written determination shall also address any
14 design elements that were desired by the municipality or specifically identified
15 in the regional plan pursuant to subdivision 2402(b)(4)(B) of this chapter but
16 were not incorporated.

17 * * *

18 (b) Municipal projects. A municipally managed project shall incorporate
19 complete streets principles unless the municipality managing the project makes
20 a written determination, supported by documentation, that one or more of the
21 following circumstances exist:

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(2) The cost of incorporating complete streets principles is disproportionate to the need or probable use as determined by factors such as land use, current and projected user volumes, population density, crash data, historic and natural resource constraints, and maintenance requirements. The municipality shall consult local and regional plans, as appropriate, in assessing these and any other relevant factors. If the municipality managing the project bases the written determination required under this subsection in whole or in part on this subdivision then the project manager shall provide a supplemental written determination with specific details on costs, needs, and probable uses, as applicable. The supplemental written determination shall also address any design elements that were desired by the municipality or specifically identified in the regional plan pursuant to subdivision 2402(b)(4)(B) of this chapter but were not incorporated.

* * *

Second: By striking out Secs. 27–29, and their reader assistance heading, in their entireties and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

1 * * * Electric and Plug-In Hybrid Vehicles; EV Infrastructure Fee * * *

2 Sec. 27. 23 V.S.A. § 361 is amended to read:

3 § 361. PLEASURE CARS

4 (a) The annual registration fee for a pleasure car, as defined in subdivision
5 4(28) of this title, ~~and~~ including a pleasure car that is a plug-in electric vehicle,
6 as defined in subdivision 4(85) of this title, shall be \$89.00, and the biennial
7 fee shall be \$163.00.

8 (b) In addition to the registration fee set forth in subsection (a) of this
9 section, there shall be an annual electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure fee for a
10 pleasure car that is a battery electric vehicle, as defined in subdivision 4(85)(A)
11 of this title, equal to the amount of the annual fee collected in subsection (a) of
12 this section, or a biennial EV infrastructure fee equal to two times the annual
13 fee collected in subsection (a) of this section.

14 (c) In addition to the registration fee set forth in subsection (a) of this
15 section, there shall be an annual EV infrastructure fee for a pleasure car that is
16 a plug-in hybrid electric vehicle, as defined in subdivision 4(85)(B) of this
17 title, equal to one-half the amount of the annual fee collected in subsection (a)
18 of this section, or a biennial EV infrastructure fee equal to the annual fee
19 collected in subsection (a) of this section.

20 (d) The annual and biennial EV infrastructure fees collected in subsections
21 (b) and (c) of this section shall be allocated to the Transportation Fund for the

1 purpose of increasing Vermonters’ access to electric vehicle supply equipment
2 (EVSE) charging ports through a program or programs selected by the
3 Secretary, which may include programs administered by the Agency of
4 Commerce and Community Development.

5 Sec. 28. EV INFRASTRUCTURE FEE; ELECTRIC VEHICLES

6 The Department of Motor Vehicles shall implement a public outreach
7 campaign regarding EV infrastructure fees for battery electric vehicles and
8 plug-in electric hybrid vehicles not later than October 1, 2024. The campaign
9 shall disseminate information on the Department’s web page and through other
10 outreach methods.

11 Sec. 29. 23 V.S.A. § 361 is amended to read:

12 § 361. PLEASURE CARS

13 * * *

14 ~~(b) In addition to the registration fee set forth in subsection (a) of this~~
15 ~~section, there shall be an annual electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure fee for a~~
16 ~~pleasure car that is a battery electric vehicle, as defined in subdivision 4(85)(A)~~
17 ~~of this title, equal to the amount of the annual fee collected in subsection (a) of~~
18 ~~this section, or a biennial EV infrastructure fee equal to two times the annual~~
19 ~~fee collected in subsection (a) of this section. [Repealed.]~~

20 * * *

1 (d) The annual and biennial EV infrastructure fees collected in ~~subsections~~
2 ~~(b) and subsection~~ (c) of this section shall be allocated to the Transportation
3 Fund ~~for the purpose of increasing Vermonters' access to electric vehicle~~
4 ~~supply equipment (EVSE) charging ports through a program or programs~~
5 ~~selected by the Secretary, which may include programs administered by the~~
6 ~~Agency of Commerce and Community Development.~~

7 Third: In Sec. 34, 19 V.S.A. § 42, following “subsections”, by striking out
8 “7(k),” and inserting in lieu thereof “7(k),”

9 Fourth: By adding a new reader assistance heading and a new section to be
10 Sec. 34a to read as follows:

11 * * * MileageSmart; Income Eligibility * * *

12 Sec. 34a. 19 V.S.A. § 2903 is amended to read:

13 § 2903. MILEAGESMART

14 (a) Creation; administration.

15 (1) There is created a used high fuel efficiency vehicle incentive
16 program, which shall be administered by the Agency of Transportation and
17 known as MileageSmart.

18 (2) Subject to State procurement requirements, the Agency may retain a
19 contractor or contractors to assist with marketing, program development, and
20 administration of MileageSmart.

1 (b) Program structure. MileageSmart shall structure high fuel efficiency
2 purchase incentive payments by income to help all Vermonters benefit from
3 more efficient driving and reduced greenhouse gas emissions, including
4 Vermont’s most vulnerable. Specifically, MileageSmart shall:

5 (1) apply to purchases of used high fuel-efficient motor vehicles, which
6 for purposes of this program shall be pleasure cars with a combined
7 city/highway fuel efficiency of at least 40 miles per gallon or miles-per-gallon
8 equivalent as rated by the Environmental Protection Agency when the vehicle
9 was new; and

10 (2) provide not more than one point-of-sale voucher worth up to
11 \$5,000.00 to an individual who is a member of a household with an adjusted
12 gross income that is at or below 80 percent of the State median income;
13 provided, however, that the Agency of Transportation may reduce the income
14 eligibility threshold based on available funding or applicant volume, or both, in
15 order to prioritize vouchers for households with lower income.

16 * * *

17
18 (Committee vote: _____)

19 _____

20 Senator _____

21 FOR THE COMMITTEE