

1 TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

2 The Committee on Finance to which was referred Senate Bill No. 115
3 entitled “An act relating to miscellaneous agricultural subjects” respectfully
4 reports that it has considered the same and recommends that the bill be
5 amended by striking out Secs. 8 and 9, municipal stormwater regulation of
6 farms, in their entireties and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

7 Sec. 8. REPORT ON MUNICIPAL STORMWATER REGULATION OF
8 FARMS

9 On or before December 1, 2023, the Commissioner of Environmental
10 Conservation, after consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture, Food and
11 Markets and with representatives of municipal stormwater utilities or
12 regulators, shall submit to the Senate Committees on Agriculture and on
13 Natural Resources and Energy and the House Committees on Agriculture,
14 Food Resiliency, and Forestry and on Environment and Energy a report
15 regarding the regulation by municipal stormwater entities of property subject
16 to the Required Agricultural Practices. The report shall include:

17 (1) a recommendation regarding whether property subject to the
18 Required Agricultural Practices should be subject to regulation by a municipal
19 stormwater utility or other municipal stormwater entity;

20 (2) a recommendation regarding whether property subject to the
21 Required Agricultural Practices should be required to pay an assessment or fee

1 imposed by a municipal stormwater utility or other municipal stormwater
2 entity;

3 (3) a recommendation whether property subject to the Required
4 Agricultural Practices should receive an offset of any stormwater assessment
5 or fee charged by a municipal stormwater utility or other municipal stormwater
6 entity for the stormwater management practices that the property is required to
7 conduct under State law;

8 (4) if the report recommends that property subject to the required
9 agricultural practice should be subject to a stormwater fee, rate, or assessment,
10 a recommendation on whether owners of property subject to the Required
11 Agricultural Practices should be required to pay stormwater fees, rates, or
12 assessments for the period of suspension under Sec. 2 of this act; and

13 (5) any other recommendation that the Commissioner determines is
14 relevant to municipal stormwater regulation of properties subject to the
15 Required Agricultural Practices, including any proposed legislative changes.

16 Sec. 9. SUSPENSION OF MUNICIPAL STORMWATER FEES ON
17 PROPERTY SUBJECT TO THE REQUIRED AGRICULTURAL
18 PRACTICES

19 Between the effective date of this act and July 1, 2024, a municipal
20 stormwater utility or other municipal entity that regulates stormwater runoff
21 shall not assess a fee, rate, or other assessment under 24 V.S.A. chapters 97,

1 101, or 105 or any other authority on stormwater from or impervious surface
2 on a property subject to the Required Agricultural Practices.

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9 (Committee vote: _____)

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Senator _____

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FOR THE COMMITTEE