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Introduced by Representatives Higley of Lowell, Bailey of Hyde Park, Burt of Cabot, Casey of Hubbardton, Demar of Enosburgh, Dickinson of St. Albans Town, Dobrovich of Williamstown, Feltus of Lyndon, Galfetti of Barre Town, Goslant of Northfield, Hango of Berkshire, Howland of Rutland Town, Keyser of Rutland City, Labor of Morgan, Lipsky of Stowe, Luneau of St. Albans City, McFaun of Barre Town, Morgan, L. of Milton, Morgan, M. of Milton, Morrissey of Bennington, Nelson of Derby, Nielsen of Brandon, Oliver of Sheldon, Page of Newport City, Parsons of Newbury, Powers of Waterford, Quimby of Lyndon, Southworth of Walden, Tagliavia of Corinth, and Taylor of Milton

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Conservation and development; community resiliency and biodiversity protection; conserved land; use value appraisal; current use

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to add land enrolled in the Use Value Appraisal Program to be included in the definition of conserved land for purposes of the conserved land inventory.

1 An act relating to the inclusion of use value appraisal land in the conserved
2 land inventory

3 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

4 Sec. 1. 10 V.S.A. § 2801 is amended to read:

5 § 2801. DEFINITIONS

6 As used in this section:

7 * * *

8 (3) “Natural resource management area” means an area having
9 permanent protection from conversion for the majority of the area but that is
10 subject to long-term, sustainable land management or agricultural land or
11 forestland that is enrolled in the Use Value Appraisal Program pursuant to 32
12 V.S.A. chapter 124.

13 * * *

14 (6) “Conserved” means ~~permanently protected and~~ meeting the
15 definition of ecological reserve area, biodiversity conservation area, or natural
16 resource management area as defined in this section for purposes of meeting
17 the 30 percent goal in subsection 2802(b) of this title. For purposes of meeting
18 the 50 percent goal of subsection 2802(b) of this title, “conserved” primarily
19 means permanently protected and meeting the definition of ecological reserve
20 area, biodiversity conservation area, or natural resource management area as
21 defined in this section, although other long-term land protection mechanisms
22 and measures that achieve the goals of Vermont Conservation Design that are

1 enforceable and accountable and that support an ecologically functional and
2 connected landscape may be considered.

3 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

4 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2025.