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H.373

SHORT FORM

Introduced by Representatives Cina of Burlington, Logan of Burlington,
McGill of Bridport, and Satcowitz of Randolph

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Expanding democracy pilot projects

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to launch a variety of pilot projects expanding democratic practices in State and local government, including expanding the use of participatory decision-making in existing neighborhood planning assemblies; creating neighborhood planning assemblies in other towns, cities, and villages; creating regional planning assemblies; exploring different processes to increase engagement in Town Meeting Day; exploring the use of sortition (the selection of officials at random from a group) and charrettes (dividing a group into subgroups to deliberate and then present the subgroup's idea back to the larger group for further consideration) in public bodies and meetings; requiring paid time off to increase participation in elections; exploring ways to increase democratic engagement as a positive social determinant of health; incentivizing engagement by providing goods that improve social determinants of health; providing grants to public schools to use assemblies to make decisions about

1 policies and practices within schools; and educating the public on skills for
2 advocacy and community organizing.

3 An act relating to pilot projects expanding democratic practices in State and
4 local government

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

6 (TEXT OMITTED IN SHORT-FORM BILLS)