

1 H.956

2 Introduced by Representative Stone of Burlington

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Municipal and county government; municipal charters; City of  
6 Burlington; amendment

7 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to approve an  
8 amendment to the charter of the City of Burlington to establish the Office of  
9 Racial Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging.

10 An act relating to approval of an amendment to the charter of the City of  
11 Burlington relating to the Office of Racial Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging

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

13 Sec. 1. CHARTER AMENDMENT APPROVAL

14 The General Assembly approves the amendment to the charter of the City  
15 of Burlington as set forth in this act. The voters of the City approved the  
16 proposal of amendment on March 3, 2026.

17 Sec. 2. 24 App. V.S.A. chapter 3 is amended to read:

18 CHAPTER 3. CITY OF BURLINGTON

19 \* \* \*

1 Subchapter 8. General Provisions

2 \* \* \*

3 § 374. OFFICE OF RACIAL EQUITY, INCLUSION, AND BELONGING

4 (a) The City of Burlington shall form the Office of Racial Equity,  
5 Inclusion, and Belonging (REIB) and establish a Director of Racial Equity,  
6 Inclusion, and Belonging.

7 (b) The Director of REIB role shall be a permanent position in the City,  
8 selected and hired in accordance with City of Burlington Human Resources  
9 policies and procedures, and shall report directly to the Mayor.

10 (c) The REIB shall be under the supervision, direction, and control of the  
11 Director, subject to the orders and ordinances of the City Council.

12 (d) The Director of REIB shall have all of the powers, duties, and  
13 responsibilities as are provided in the Director position description.

14 (e) Subject to the orders and ordinances of the City Council, the Mayor and  
15 the Director of REIB shall develop and implement a comprehensive racial  
16 equity, inclusion, and belonging strategy for the City of Burlington.

17 (f) In furtherance of this work, the Director of REIB shall, subject to the  
18 orders and ordinances of the City Council, have and implement the following  
19 rights, powers, and duties in collaboration with all City departments:

20 (1) to work on behalf of the City to advance equity and social justice by  
21 championing diversity, inclusion, belonging, and antiracism;

