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UVM '25

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WEEKLY REPORT

8:45 AM, January 31, 2025, Room 35

Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs

I. New Bills in Committee

A. No new bills

B. No committee activity on existing bills, S.6 and S.16

II. Meetings and Key Points

A. Dept. of Tourism and Marketing Report

- 15.8M visitors 2023; down from 2022, but back to pre-pandemic level
- Visitation campaign and relocation campaign
 - 52 new family units moved to VT through Think Vermont initiative in 2024

B. Outdoor Recreation Industry Introductions and Overview

- Sen. Clarkson asked how many members are building housing for their employees... clarifying services vs manufacturing
 - Killington houses ~463 employees – deeply subsidized housing
 - Vermont Glove purchased building: 10 units, 4 for employees
- Killington's investment in workforce includes internships in hospitality, mechanic training leading to jobs, housing close to bus routes

C. Consumer Assistance Program Update

- Will be over \$2mil return in savings & refunds for Vermonters this year
- Top 3 consumer assistance subjects:
 - Local Retail (60% online purchases)
 - Home improvement (recently assigned dedicated person to specialize in servicing this)
 - Motor vehicles