



State of Vermont
Department of Public Service
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TO: House Committee on Energy and Digital Infrastructure
FROM: Kelly Launder, Assistant Director, Efficiency and Energy Resources Division
DATE: 2/20/26
SUBJECT: H. 718 Draft 1.2

Although we appreciate many of the revisions made to the bill, especially those that address DFS's concerns regarding the adoption of the IRC and the energy modules, as we previously discussed we cannot support the TEPF appropriations. We support the use of those funds for pre- weatherization (health and safety, repair, etc.) and weatherization work with a priority on low- and moderate-income households. We are currently participating in the Demand Resource Process in front of the Public Utilities Commission, where the next performance period (2027-2029) budget and goals for the Energy Efficiency Utility are being set and we believe that process is the best place to address the highest and best use of those funds. The proposed \$400,000 appropriation would equate to many additional homes/units weatherized and/or receiving critical pre-weatherization work.

Additionally, we are concerned the language regarding municipalities ability to enforce energy codes may create some inconsistencies between contractors work in different municipalities and/or other unintended consequences.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this feedback. Please let me know if I can provide any additional information that would be helpful to the Committee.

