

1 TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

2 The Committee on Health Care to which was referred House Bill No. 80
3 entitled “An act relating to the Office of the Health Care Advocate”
4 respectfully reports that it has considered the same and recommends that the
5 bill be amended as follows:

6 First: In Sec. 1, 8 V.S.A. § 4062, by striking out subdivision (c)(3)(A) in its
7 entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new subdivision (c)(3)(A) to read as
8 follows:

9 (3)(A) In addition to the public comment provisions set forth in this
10 subsection (c), the Office of the Health Care Advocate established in 18 V.S.A.
11 chapter 229, acting on behalf of health insurance consumers in this State, may,
12 within 30 calendar days after the Board receives an insurer’s rate request
13 pursuant to this section, submit to the Board, in writing, ~~suggested~~ questions
14 ~~regarding~~ **with an articulable nexus to** the filing ~~for that~~ the Board ~~to provide~~
15 ~~to~~ shall ask the insurer, either directly or through its contracting actuary, if any.

16 Second: In Sec. 3, 18 V.S.A. chapter 229, in section 9604, by striking out
17 subdivision (b)(1) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new subdivision
18 (b)(1) to read as follows:

19 (1) When appropriate, State agencies shall allow the Office to access
20 confidential or proprietary information that is otherwise exempt from public
21 inspection and copying under the Public Records Act and to participate in

1 meetings, deliberations, and proceedings in which confidential or proprietary
2 information is discussed; **provided, however, that nothing in this section**
3 **shall require a State agency to provide or disclose information that is**
4 **prohibited from disclosure by State or federal law or that would cause the**
5 **provider or discloser to violate any statutory or common law privilege.**

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17 (Committee vote: _____)

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Representative _____

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FOR THE COMMITTEE