

1 Introduced by Committee on Human Services

2 Date:

3 Subject: Human services; emergency housing

4 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to establish a
5 continuum of supports and services to prevent or divert households from
6 homelessness and to address the needs of Vermonters who are homeless.

7 An act relating to establishing the Vermont Homelessness Response
8 Continuum

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

10 * * * Findings, Legislative Intent, and Purpose * * *

11 Sec. 1. FINDINGS

12 The General Assembly finds that:

13 (1) although an imperfect tool for measuring the true number of
14 unhoused Vermonters, the Vermont Homeless Management Information
15 System as of December 2025 indicated that there were 4,022 individuals who
16 were homeless in the State, 863 of whom were children under 18 years of age;
17 and

18 (2) the 2024 Vermont Housing Needs Assessment notes that of the
19 36,000 primary homes needed in Vermont between 2025 and 2029, the number
20 needed to address homelessness is 3,295.

1 Sec. 2. LEGISLATIVE INTENT

2 It is the intent of the General Assembly that:

3 (1) unsheltered homelessness be eliminated and that homelessness in
4 Vermont be rare, brief, and nonrecurring;

5 (2) Vermont reduce reliance on the inefficient use of hotel and motel
6 rooms for emergency housing;

7 (3) utilization of an emergency housing benefit to access hotels and
8 motels through the General Assistance program end and be replaced by a
9 continuum of care; and

10 (4) a continuum of supports and services be available to provide a stable
11 pathway to permanent housing that meets the specific needs of households
12 experiencing homelessness.

13 Sec. 3. PURPOSE

14 It is the purpose of this act to:

15 (1) establish a continuum of supports and services for households who
16 are experiencing homelessness or who are at risk of experiencing
17 homelessness;

18 (2) ensure that tailored, temporary emergency housing assistance is
19 available to Vermonters in a manner that encourages efficient and accountable
20 use of taxpayer funds;

1 (3) support self-sufficiency and reduce returns to homelessness by
2 developing personalized housing plans with required participation by
3 households;

4 (4) establish clear eligibility criteria and require active household
5 participation;

6 (5) expand the use of alternative emergency housing models in
7 partnership with municipalities, nonprofit community-based providers, and
8 private landlords;

9 (6) integrate supportive services to assist households to achieve
10 permanent housing stability;

11 (7) establish transparent accountability measures, reporting
12 requirements, and oversight mechanisms;

13 (8) increase program efficiency and promote maximum flexibility in
14 administering services and supports in the continuum;

15 (9) empower local communities to administer emergency housing
16 services with maximum flexibility; and

17 (10) create a diversified system of emergency housing options,
18 including shelters, specialized shelters, shared housing arrangements, host-
19 home models, master-lease units, and rapid rehousing placements, that provide
20 cost-effective, sustainable, and supportive outcomes to households.

1 * * * Creation of the Vermont **Homelessness** Response Continuum * * *

2 Sec. 4. 33 V.S.A. chapter 22 is added to read:

3 CHAPTER 22. VERMONT **HOMELESSNESS** RESPONSE CONTINUUM

4 § 2201. DEFINITIONS

5 As used in this chapter:

6 (1) “Alternative housing options” means housing options **including**
7 shelters, specialized shelters, transitional housing, recovery residences, shared
8 housing arrangements, host-home models, **master-lease** units, and rapid
9 rehousing placements.

10 (2) “Applicant” means a household that applies for **emergency housing**
11 assistance.

12 (3) “At risk of homelessness” means precariously housed without
13 sufficient income, resources, or support to prevent homelessness.

14 (4) “Case management services” means individualized **supportive**
15 services.

16 (5) “Coordinated entry” means **a process that standardizes the way**
17 households at risk of homelessness or experiencing homelessness access and
18 are assessed for and referred to the housing and services that a household needs
19 for housing stability.

20 (6) “Department” means the Department for Children and Families.

1 (7) “Disability” means a physical, sensory, cognitive, developmental, or
2 mental health condition or substance use disorder that substantially limits one
3 or more major life activities, or that requires ongoing support, accommodation,
4 or treatment to maintain an individual’s health, safety, or independence. The
5 term includes chronic or episodic conditions that significantly impact daily
6 functioning, regardless of whether the individual is receiving, or is eligible to
7 receive, federal disability benefits.

8 (8) “Diversion” means a strategy aimed at preventing homelessness by
9 helping households find immediate alternative housing options instead of
10 entering shelters. Diversion focuses on addressing the needs of those who
11 have recently lost their housing.

12 (9) “Eligible household” means a household that is homeless and is
13 physically present and intends to reside in Vermont as evidenced by active
14 participation in a housing, employment, or other Agency of Human Services-
15 recognized plan.

16 (10) “Emergency cold-weather shelter” means publicly funded shelter
17 beds made available to households during periods when the National Weather
18 Service is forecasting temperatures at or below 10 degrees Fahrenheit
19 including windchill for the majority of the State.

20 (11) “Emergency housing” means temporary shelter, lodging, or other
21 housing support, or related services provided to eligible households to protect

1 the health, safety, and welfare of an eligible household when no safe housing
2 option is immediately available.

3 (12) “Homeless” means:

4 (A) lacking a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence;

5 (B) facing imminent loss of primary nighttime residence;

6 (C) fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence;

7 (D) residing in a place not meant for human habitation, such as cars,
8 parks, abandoned buildings, or streets; or

9 (E) otherwise defined as homeless under federal law.

10 (13) “Household” means an individual or group of individuals, with or
11 without children, including individuals who reside together as one economic
12 unit, who are married, parties to a civil union, or unmarried.

13 (14) “Minor child” means an individual under 18 years of age.

14 (15) “Office” means of the Office of Economic Opportunity.

15 (16) “Permanent supportive housing” means long-term housing with
16 wraparound services for individuals with complex health and social needs.

17 (17) “Prevention” means services intended to prevent a household from
18 becoming homeless, including housing relocation or stabilization services or
19 short-term rental assistance, including rental arrearage.

20 (18) “Program” means the Vermont Homelessness Response
21 Continuum.

1 (19) “Rapid rehousing” means short- to medium-term rental assistance
2 and supportive services aimed at assisting a household to quickly exit
3 homelessness.

4 (20) “Shelter” means a facility that meets the Department’s shelter
5 standards.

6 (21) “Specialized shelter” means a facility that meets the Department’s
7 shelter standards and applicable standards for the delivery of additional
8 services, including health care, mental health services, or services related to
9 substance use disorder.

10 (22) “Supportive services” means individualized supports that assist a
11 household in obtaining and maintaining housing, including:

12 (A) intake assessments and services for diversion from homelessness;

13 (B) household needs assessments;

14 (C) case management;

15 (D) individualized household plans to address identified needs;

16 (E) housing navigation services;

17 (F) assistance obtaining and retaining housing, including financial
18 assistance;

19 (G) landlord-tenant outreach, education, and conflict resolution;

20 (H) navigation to other services and supports as identified in the
21 household’s housing plan, including economic benefits, peer-supported

1 services, job training and employment services, services related to disability
2 and independent living advocacy, and referral to health care assistance,
3 including treatment for mental health conditions and substance use disorder;

4 (I) progress monitoring of interventions; and

5 (J) services to ensure continuity after a permanent placement.

6 (23) “Unsheltered homelessness” means sleeping in a location not
7 designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation, including
8 cars, parks, abandoned buildings, or streets.

9 § 2202. ESTABLISHMENT; VERMONT HOMELESSNESS RESPONSE

10 CONTINUUM

11 (a) The Vermont Homelessness Response Continuum is established to
12 create an array of services that prevent and address homelessness in Vermont.
13 The Program shall be administered by the Department’s Office of Economic
14 Opportunity.

15 (b) The Office shall maintain a continuum of care that is flexible, housing
16 focused, and designed to prevent homelessness whenever possible. The
17 continuum shall prioritize early intervention, rapid resolution of housing crises,
18 and equitable access to emergency and permanent housing.

19 (c) The Program shall:

20 (1) provide temporary emergency housing to eligible individuals and
21 eligible households experiencing homelessness or at imminent risk of

1 homelessness;

2 (2) reduce reliance on hotels and motels for emergency housing

3 assistance;

4 (3) expand the use of alternative housing options in partnership with

5 community organizations, municipalities, and private landlords;

6 (4) integrate case management and individualized housing plans into

7 all emergency housing placements; and

8 (5) ensure accountability, transparency, and cost efficiency in the use

9 of public funds.

10 § 2203. CONTINUUM OF CARE COMPONENTS

11 (a) The continuum of care shall consist of the following:

12 (1) level 1: prevention and diversion services;

13 (2) level 2: shelter services:

14 (A) level 2A: highly-structured shelter services; and

15 (B) level 2B: low-barrier shelter services;

16 (3) level 3: specialized shelter services;

17 (4) level 4: permanent supportive housing services;

18 (5) level 5: hotels and motels:

19 (A) level 5A: hotels and motels with supportive services; and

20 (B) level 5B: winter and nonwinter hotel and motels; and

21 (6) other emergency housing services.

1 (b) The Office of Economic Opportunity shall address each of the services
2 in subsection (a) of this section by separate line items in its budget. The
3 Department shall be responsible for any transfers to other Agency of Human
4 Services departments necessary to implement the services listed in subsection
5 (a) of this section. The Department and other departments within the Agency
6 of Human Services shall maximize federal receipts, as applicable, for services
7 listed in subsection (a) of this section.

8 § 2204. PREVENTION AND DIVERSION SERVICES

9 Level 1: Prevention and diversion services.

10 (1) Prevention and diversion services shall function as the primary entry
11 point to the Vermont Homelessness Response Continuum for all households.
12 The Department shall ensure that prevention and diversion services are
13 provided through an agreement with one or more community partners in each
14 region of the State in a manner that accommodates an eligible household's
15 disability, if any. All households, upon request for assistance, shall receive a
16 standardized prevention and diversion assessment to identify safe alternatives
17 to homelessness and resolve immediate housing barriers.

18 (2) Prevention includes activities to avert entry into homelessness.

19 Diversion includes problem-solving interventions and supports that safely
20 resolve a housing crisis without the use of shelter or hotel placements.

1 (3) Funds administered for prevention and diversion services shall have
2 maximum flexibility.

3 § 2205. SHELTER SERVICES

4 (a) Level 2A: Highly structured shelter services.

5 (1) The Department shall determine the need for highly structured
6 shelter services and, to the extent funds permit, develop sufficient highly
7 structured shelter beds to address that need. The Department shall enter into
8 agreements with community partners for the provision of highly structured
9 shelter services for a period of not less than two-years at a time.

10 (2) Highly structured shelters shall provide programming that
11 emphasizes case management, housing stability, employment, education, or
12 treatment services, as well as other services as appropriate, in a manner that
13 accommodates an eligible household’s disability, if any. Eligible households
14 receiving highly structured shelter services shall participate in case
15 management and other services to the extent of the eligible household’s ability.

16 (3) The Department shall ensure that highly structured shelter services
17 meet the Department of Public Safety, Vermont Fire and Building Safety Code
18 (CVR 28-070-001).

19 (4) If an eligible household’s needs cannot be met with the level 1
20 prevention and diversion services in section 2204 of this chapter, highly

1 structured shelter services is the preferred initial placement if capacity,
2 staffing, and geographic accessibility are available

3 (b) Level 2B: Low-barrier shelter services.

4 (1) The Department shall determine the need for low-barrier shelter
5 services and, to the extent funds permit, develop sufficient low-barrier shelters
6 to address that need. The Department shall enter into agreements with
7 community partners for the provision of low-barrier shelters for a period of not
8 less than two years at a time.

9 (2) Low-barrier shelters shall minimize barriers to entry by reducing the
10 rules and programmatic requirements found in highly structured shelters, while
11 still providing case management and other housing support services in a
12 manner that accommodates an eligible household's disability, if any. Stays in
13 low-barrier shelters shall be time limited, and eligible households shall be
14 transitioned to highly structured shelter services or permanent housing as soon
15 as feasible.

16 (3) The Department shall ensure that low-barrier shelter services meet
17 the Department of Public Safety, Vermont Fire and Building Safety Code
18 (CVR 28-070-001).

19 (4) If an eligible household's needs cannot be met with the prevention
20 and diversion services in level 1 or the highly structured shelter services in

1 subsection (a) of this section, low-barrier shelter services may be utilized if
2 capacity, staffing, and geographic accessibility are available.

3 § 2206. SPECIALIZED SHELTER SERVICES

4 Level 3: Specialized services.

5 (1) The Department shall determine the need for and, to the extent funds
6 permit, develop specialized shelter services that comply with the Department
7 of Public Safety, Vermont Fire and Building Safety Code (CVR 28-070-001),
8 as well as any other applicable standards relevant to the specialty population.
9 To the extent funds are appropriated for this purpose, the Department shall
10 enter into agreements with community partners for the provision of specialized
11 shelter services for a period of not less than two years.

12 (2) Specialized service shelters shall provide services delivered in a
13 highly structured shelter as well as additional specialty services, such as
14 services for substance use disorder and mental and physical health conditions.
15 Eligible households receiving specialized shelter services shall participate in
16 case management and other services to the extent of the eligible household's
17 ability.

18 (3) If an eligible household's needs cannot be met with the level 1
19 prevention and diversion services in section 2204 of this chapter or the level 2
20 shelter services in section 2205 of this chapter, a specialized service shelter

1 may be utilized if capacity, staffing, and geographic accessibility are available
2 and the eligible household requires specialized services.

3 § 2207. PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

4 Level 4: Permanent supportive housing.

5 (1) The Agency of Human Services or any department within the
6 Agency shall provide or enter an agreement for permanent supportive housing
7 that combines long-term, community-based rental assistance with voluntary,
8 flexible supportive services, such as family supportive housing and other
9 supportive housing services funded in whole or in part by Medicaid.

10 (2) Eligible households receiving permanent supportive housing services
11 shall participate in case management, planning for housing stability, and other
12 services to the extent of the eligible household's ability.

13 (3) If an eligible household's needs cannot be met with the level 1
14 prevention and diversion services in section 2204 of this chapter, the level 2
15 shelter services in section 2205 of this chapter, or the level 3 specialized
16 shelter services in section 2206 of this chapter, permanent supportive housing
17 may be utilized where capacity, staffing, and geographic accessibility are
18 available.

19 § 2208. HOTELS AND MOTELS

20 Level 5: Hotels and motels. It is the intent of the General Assembly to
21 decrease reliance on hotel and motel rooms. However, until sufficient

1 permanent affordable housing or shelter services are available, the use of hotel
2 and motel services shall be permitted.

3 (1) Level 5A: Hotels and motels with supportive services.

4 (A) Annually, as part of the Department’s budget presentation, the
5 Department shall set goals for increased housing capacity, including permanent
6 supportive housing, permanent affordable housing, and shelter beds. The
7 Department shall provide data pertaining to the increased shelter capacity and
8 the extent to which shelter capacity meets the needs of eligible households
9 experiencing homelessness each year. The Department shall propose hotel and
10 motel rates as part of its budget presentation for the General Assembly’s
11 consideration.

12 (B) Eligible households placed in a hotel or motel pursuant to this
13 Program shall participate in case management services, planning for housing
14 stability, and other services to the extent of the eligible household’s ability.

15 (C) If an eligible household is placed in a hotel or motel pursuant to
16 this subdivision (1), the Department shall:

17 (i) enter into an agreement with one or more community partners
18 to provide relevant supportive services;

19 (ii) permit a population-specific placement to the extent certain
20 populations are not isolated from the wider community served by the Program;
21 and

1 (iii) use only hotel and motel rates established by the General
2 Assembly.

3 (D) If an eligible household is placed in a hotel or motel pursuant to
4 this subdivision (1), the community partners shall enter into agreements for the
5 use of blocks of hotel and motel rooms and negotiate conditions of use for
6 those blocks, including access to providers of case management and other
7 supportive services.

8 (E) A hotel or motel used pursuant to this chapter shall comply with
9 Program rules and the following rules:

10 (i) Department of Health, Licensed Lodging Establishment Rule
11 (CVR 13-140-023); and

12 (ii) Department of Public Safety, Vermont Fire and Building
13 Safety Code (CVR 28-070-001).

14 (F) If an eligible household’s needs cannot be met with the level 1
15 prevention and diversion services in section 2204 of this chapter, the level 2
16 shelter services in section 2205 of this chapter, or the level 3 specialized
17 shelter services in section 2206 of this chapter, or the level 4 permanent
18 supportive services in section 2207 of this chapter, the Department may utilize
19 hotels and motels if capacity, staffing, and geographic accessibility are
20 available.

21 (2) Level 5B: Winter and nonwinter hotel and motels.

1 (A) To the extent funds exist for this purpose, a household shall be
2 placed in general-access hotels and motels if no available option exists within
3 levels 1–5A of the continuum of care.

4 (B) If an eligible household is placed in a hotel or motel pursuant to this
5 subdivision (2), the Department shall:

6 (i) enter into an agreement with one more community partners to
7 provide relevant supportive services;

8 (ii) permit a population-specific placement to the extent certain
9 populations are not isolated from the wider community served by the Program;
10 and

11 (iii) use only hotel and motel rates established by the General
12 Assembly.

13 (C) If an eligible household is placed in a hotel or motel pursuant to
14 this subdivision (2), the community partners shall enter into agreements for the
15 use of blocks of hotel and motels rooms and negotiate conditions of use for
16 those blocks, including access to providers of case management and other
17 supportive services.

18 (D) Annually between December 1 and March 31, households may
19 be placed in general-access hotels and motels. Use of hotels and motels during
20 these months shall only occur if no available option exists within levels 1–5A

1 of the continuum of care. Services provided pursuant to this subdivision (2)
2 shall not occur on a night-by-night basis.

3 § 2209. OTHER EMERGENCY HOUSING SERVICES

4 (a) The Department shall provide financial assistance to municipalities in
5 areas of the State with a high volume of unsheltered homelessness. The use of
6 this aid is at the discretion of the municipality and includes providing access to
7 basic life-sustaining shelter when the National Weather Service declares a cold
8 weather advisory. Shelter provided pursuant to this subsection shall be time
9 limited, shall not require a coordinated entry assessment or case management,
10 and shall have minimal data reporting requirements.

11 (b) Emergency cold-weather shelters shall be managed through an
12 agreement between the Department and one or more community partners to
13 provide overnight, low-barrier shelter when weather conditions warrant. The
14 Department and community partners shall ensure equitable access to
15 emergency cold-weather shelters for communities with a high number of
16 households experiencing unsheltered homelessness. Shelter provided pursuant
17 to this subsection shall be time limited, shall not require a coordinated entry
18 assessment or case management, and shall have minimal data reporting
19 requirements.

20 (c) Independent from this Program, the Agency of Human Services,
21 through its various departments, provides households with other time-limited

1 or permanent housing. Such services include recovery housing, various
2 residential supports for individuals with intellectual or developmental
3 disabilities, home care services for older Vermonters and individuals with
4 physical disabilities, transitional housing for individuals exiting correctional
5 custody, and residential options for individuals with mental health challenges.
6 Emergency housing provided through the Program is not intended in lieu of
7 access to any other Agency of Human Services time-limited or permanent
8 housing.

9 **§ 2210. HOUSEHOLD ELIGIBILITY AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

10 **TBD**

11 **§ 2211. CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES**

12 **(a) A lead case management entity shall provide case management services**
13 **to all eligible households participating in the Program, except where**
14 **specifically exempted for certain services. Case management services**
15 **provided pursuant to this chapter shall be informed by the acuity level of the**
16 **eligible household and include individualized supports that connect an eligible**
17 **household to public assistance health care, employment, permanent housing,**
18 **and other services. Each eligible household shall be assigned a lead case**
19 **management entity, which may be from any Agency of Human Services**
20 **department or a community partner.**

1 (b) Unless a member of the eligible household has a disability that prevents
2 the eligible household’s ability to participate in case management processes or
3 where case management is specifically exempted for specific services, an
4 eligible household served by this Program shall participate in case
5 management processes, including cooperating with the Department and the
6 lead case management entity on screening and care planning. To the extent
7 feasible, an eligible household may choose the lead case management entity to
8 which it is assigned.

9 § 2212. NEEDS ASSESSMENT

10 Every fifth year beginning in 2028, the Department shall contract with an
11 organization to conduct a needs assessment that identifies gaps in services for
12 homeless households in the State and includes recommendations to ensure the
13 provision of equitable services throughout the State.

14 § 2213. APPEALS

15 An applicant for or a recipient of assistance pursuant to this chapter may file
16 a request for a fair hearing with the Human Services Board pursuant to
17 3 V.S.A. § 3091. If the Human Services Board hears and makes identical
18 determinations in X cases brought by Vermont Homelessness Response
19 Continuum applicants or recipients, the Department shall adopt the Board’s
20 interpretation as part of its administration of the Program.

21 § 2214. RULEMAKING

1 § 602. SUPPORTIVE SERVICES AND SHELTER FOR HOUSEHOLDS

2 EXPERIENCING DOMESTIC OR SEXUAL VIOLENCE

3 The Department for Children and Families shall select and enter into an
4 agreement with a statewide organization to provide or cause to be provided
5 supportive services and shelter to those households that are experiencing or
6 that have experienced domestic or sexual violence. The Department shall
7 conduct regular reviews of the statewide organization to ensure compliance
8 with this section and the executed agreement. The statewide organization may
9 be subject to corrective actions by the Department if, within the constraint of
10 appropriated resources, it no longer meets the requirements of this section or
11 the executed agreement or has failed to adequately meet the needs of
12 households that are experiencing or that have experienced domestic or sexual
13 violence. If the statewide organization cannot fulfill its responsibilities under
14 this section, the Department shall work with another entity to ensure that there
15 is not a gap in services.

16 *** Status Report ***

17 Sec. 8. STATUS REPORT; VERMONT HOMELESSNESS RESPONSE

18 CONTINUUM

19 On or before January 15, 2027, the Department for Children and Families'
20 Office of Economic Opportunity shall submit a written report to the House
21 Committee on Human Services and to the Senate Committee on Health and

1 Welfare describing the Office’s preparations to implement the Vermont
2 Homelessness Response Continuum established pursuant to 33 V.S.A. chapter
3 22. The Office’s status report shall include an initial draft of the Office’s rules
4 for implementation of the Vermont Homelessness Response Continuum and
5 any recommendations for legislative action.

6 * * * Payment Rate Structure and Fiscal Year 2027 Appropriations * * *

7 Sec. 9. PAYMENT RATE STRUCTURE; SHELTER SERVICES

8 On or before July 1, 2027, the Department, in collaboration with the
9 Agency of Human Services and relevant community partners, shall establish a
10 payment rate structure for all shelter services required by this act. The
11 structure shall include a base rate and a supplemental payment for specialized
12 shelter services. It is not the intent of the General Assembly that the payment
13 rate structure established pursuant to this section cover the full operating
14 expenses of shelters throughout the State.

15 Sec. 10. APPROPRIATION; VERMONT **HOMELESSNESS** RESPONSE

16 CONTINUUM

17 (a) In fiscal year 2027, the following appropriations are made from the
18 General Fund:

- 19 (1) \$X for shelter services;
20 (2) \$X for specialized shelter services; and
21 (3) \$X for hotel and motel services.

1 **(b) Any funds appropriated in fiscal year 2027 that are not utilized in fiscal**
2 **year 2027 shall be carried forward for the same purpose for which originally**
3 **appropriated in fiscal year 2028.**

4 * * * Removing General Assistance **Annual Report** * * *

5 Sec. **11.** 33 V.S.A. § 2115 is amended to read:

6 § 2115. ~~GENERAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM REPORT~~

7 ~~On or before September 1 of each year, the Commissioner for Children and~~
8 ~~Families shall submit a written report to the Joint Fiscal Committee; the House~~
9 ~~Committees on Appropriations, on General, Housing, and Military Affairs, and~~
10 ~~on Human Services; and the Senate Committees on Appropriations and on~~
11 ~~Health and Welfare. The report shall contain the following:~~

12 ~~(1) an evaluation of the General Assistance program during the previous~~
13 ~~fiscal year;~~

14 ~~(2) any recommendations for changes to the program;~~

15 ~~(3) a plan for continued implementation of the program;~~

16 ~~(4) statewide statistics using deidentified data related to the use of~~
17 ~~emergency housing vouchers during the preceding State fiscal year, including~~
18 ~~demographic information, client data, shelter and motel usage rates, clients'~~
19 ~~primary stated cause of homelessness, and average lengths of stay in~~
20 ~~emergency housing by demographic group and by type of housing; and~~

21 ~~(5) other information the Commissioner deems appropriate.~~ **[Repealed.]**

1

* * * Effective Dates * * *

2

Sec. 12. EFFECTIVE DATES

3

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2026, except that Sec. 6 (grant

4

requirements) shall take effect on October 1, 2028.