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H.460

SHORT FORM

Introduced by Representatives Bartholomew of Hartland, Burke of
Brattleboro, Chapin of East Montpelier, Dodge of Essex, Lalley
of Shelburne, Masland of Thetford, Morris of Springfield,
Pouech of Hinesburg, Satcowitz of Randolph, and Torre of
Moretown

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Transportation; bicycle paths; infrastructure; tourism; U.S. Route 5;
Connecticut River; active transportation; vulnerable user safety;
emissions reduction

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to designate
U.S. Route 5 for the approximately 190 miles from the State border with
Massachusetts to the State border with Quebec, Canada as a bicycle corridor.
This bill also proposes to require the Agency of Transportation to convene a
steering committee to guide the development and construction of a bicycle
route—consisting of one or more segments of bicycle lanes or bicycle paths, or
both—to provide a safe and comfortable means of bicycle travel along the
designated bicycle corridor. This bill also proposes to require the steering
committee to: (1) develop a plan to address, at a minimum, the facilitation and

1 coordination of individual municipal projects to build active transportation
2 infrastructure needed to support the scenic, historic, and tourism goals of the
3 Connecticut River Byways Program, as well as the fiscal costs of construction
4 and maintenance of those projects and the U.S. Route 5 bicycle route; (2)
5 identify possible funding sources, logistical considerations, and the estimated
6 time frame for construction and completion of the projects and bicycle route;
7 (3) examine the possibility of a segmented or phased approach to construction
8 of the bicycle route; (4) evaluate the benefits of the projects to the tourism
9 industry in Vermont in general and to the municipalities along U.S. Route 5 in
10 particular; (5) coordinate the development of the bicycle route and municipal
11 projects with existing walking and bicycling facilities and rail trails; and (6)
12 develop the bicycle route and municipal projects in coordination with adjacent
13 municipalities in New Hampshire and the New Hampshire regional planning
14 commissions for those communities. The steering committee membership
15 shall include representatives from the tourism industry along U.S. Route 5;
16 managers of recreational facilities and rail trails along U.S. Route 5;
17 conservation organizations along the Connecticut River; organizations
18 dedicated to reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transportation; historic
19 preservation organizations from communities along U.S. Route 5; the Vermont
20 Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation's Recreational Trails Program;

1 the Vermont Trails and Greenways Council; and the Vermont Department of
2 Health.

3 An act relating to the development and construction of a bicycle path that
4 runs adjacent U.S. Route 5

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

6 (TEXT OMITTED IN SHORT-FORM BILLS)