

1 H.488

2 Representative Donahue of Northfield moves that the bill be amended by
3 striking out Sec. 15, effective date, and its reader assistance heading in their
4 entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec. 15 and two new sections to
5 be Secs. 16 and 17 and their associated reader assistance headings to read as
6 follows:

7 * * * State Highway Bridges * * *

8 Sec. 15. STATE HIGHWAY BRIDGES; PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES;
9 AGREEMENTS; REQUIREMENTS; MODIFICATIONS

10 (a) For projects in the Agency of Transportation's Proposed Fiscal Year
11 2026 Transportation Program for State Highway Bridges for which
12 construction has not commenced, the Agency of Transportation shall, to the
13 extent practicable, review any applicable agreements with and requirements for
14 the municipality in which each project is located to determine if modifications
15 to the applicable agreements or requirements, or both, can be made to support
16 the construction of sidewalks or other pedestrian infrastructure on the bridge,
17 consistent with the State's complete streets policy set forth in 19 V.S.A.
18 § 2402.

19 (b) In each instance in which the Agency identifies modifications to the
20 applicable agreements or requirements, or both, that can be made to support
21 the construction of sidewalks or other pedestrian infrastructure on a bridge

1 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, the Agency shall, to the extent
2 reasonably feasible and consistent with all applicable State and federal laws
3 and requirements, seek to modify provisions of agreements or modify
4 requirements, or both, as necessary to support the construction of sidewalks or
5 other pedestrian infrastructure in a manner that is consistent with the State's
6 complete streets policy set forth in 19 V.S.A. § 2402.

7 Sec. 16. STATE HIGHWAY BRIDGES; REVIEW OF
8 REQUIREMENTS; REPORT

9 (a) On or before January 15, 2026, the Secretary of Transportation shall
10 submit a written report to the House and Senate Committees on Transportation
11 that:

12 (1) examines requirements for municipalities in relation to State
13 highway bridge projects, including related Agency of Transportation
14 procedures and the terms of required agreements with municipalities; and

15 (2) identifies any changes to those requirements that are necessary to
16 facilitate and encourage the construction of sidewalks and other pedestrian
17 infrastructure in a manner that is consistent with the State's complete streets
18 policy set forth in 19 V.S.A. § 2402.

19 (b) The report shall include:

- 1 (b) The remaining sections shall take effect on July 1, 2025.