

1 TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

2 The Committee on Appropriations to which was referred House Bill No.
3 660 entitled “An act relating to fiscal year 2027 Opioid Abatement Special
4 Fund appropriations” respectfully reports that it has considered the same and
5 recommends that the Senate propose to the House that the report of the
6 Committee on Health and Welfare be amended as follows:

7 First: By striking out Sec. 3, 18 V.S.A. § 4772, in its entirety and inserting
8 a new Sec. 3 to read as follows:

9 Sec. 3. 18 V.S.A. § 4772 is amended to read:

10 § 4772. OPIOID SETTLEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

11 * * *

12 (c) Powers and duties. The Advisory Committee shall demonstrate broad
13 ongoing consultation with individuals living with opioid use disorder about
14 their direct experience with related systems, including medication for opioid
15 use disorder, residential treatment, recovery services, harm reduction services,
16 overdose, supervision by the Department of Corrections, and involvement with
17 the Department for Children and Families’ Family Services Division. To that
18 end, the Advisory Committee shall demonstrate consultation with individuals
19 with direct lived experience of opioid use disorder, frontline support
20 professionals, the Substance Misuse Oversight Prevention and Advisory
21 Council, the Health Equity Advisory Commission, and other stakeholders to

1 identify spending priorities as related to opioid use disorder prevention,
2 intervention, treatment, and recovery services and harm reduction strategies for
3 the purpose of providing recommendations to the Governor, the Department of
4 Health, and the General Assembly on prioritizing spending from the Opioid
5 Abatement Special Fund. Each ongoing funding proposal considered by the
6 Advisory Committee shall include a sustainability plan from the applicant to
7 ensure consideration of future expenses and available resources apart from the
8 Opioid Abatement Special Fund. The Advisory Committee shall consider:

9 (1) the impact of the opioid crisis on communities throughout Vermont,
10 including communities' abatement needs and proposals for abatement
11 strategies and responses;

12 (2) the perspectives of and proposals from opioid use disorder
13 prevention coalitions, recovery centers, and medication for opioid use disorder
14 providers; and

15 (3) the ongoing challenges of the opioid crisis on marginalized
16 populations, including individuals who have a lived experience of opioid use
17 disorder.

18 * * *

19 (e) ~~Presentation~~ Recommendations.

20 (1) Annually, the Advisory Committee shall vote on its
21 recommendations. Recommendations shall be informed by outcomes and

1 measurements reported by previous grantees and developed in consultation
2 with the Office of the Attorney General. If the recommendations are supported
3 by an affirmative vote of the majority, the Advisory Committee shall present
4 its recommendations for expenditures from the Opioid Abatement Special
5 Fund established pursuant to this subchapter to the Department of Health and
6 concurrently submit its recommendations in writing to the House Committees
7 on Appropriations and on Human Services and the Senate Committees on
8 Appropriations and on Health and Welfare. The Advisory Committee's
9 written recommendations shall address how each recommendation meets one
10 or more of the criteria listed in subsections 4774(b) and (c) of this subchapter.
11 The Advisory Committee shall give priority consideration to services requiring
12 funding on an ongoing basis.

13 (2) If the Department does not agree with the recommendations of the
14 Advisory Committee, it may separately submit its own recommendations,
15 developed in consultation with the Office of the Attorney General, to the
16 General Assembly.

17 * * *

18 Second: By inserting a new section to be Sec. 3a to read as follows:

19 Sec. 3a. 18 V.S.A. § 4774 is amended to read:

20 § 4774. OPIOID ABATEMENT SPECIAL FUND

