

Support for Clean Heat Standard Amendment in S.65

Dear Honorable Members of the Vermont Senate,

My name is Rachel Burgin, and I serve as the Deputy Regional State Director for Americans for Prosperity. On behalf of hardworking Vermonters and concerned citizens, we express strong support for the repeal of the Clean Heat Standard (CHS) through S.65. This repeal is a crucial step toward restoring economic freedom, preventing undue financial burdens on Vermonters, and ensuring that government policies remain practical and fair.

The bipartisan 4-1 vote in the Senate Natural Resources and Energy Committee on March 14, 2025, underscores the growing recognition that the CHS was a flawed policy. By imposing a complex system of "clean heat credits," it increased heating costs, burdened small fuel dealers, and restricted consumer choice. The repeal of 30 V.S.A. chapter 94 through S.65 rightly eliminates this ineffective program, allowing Vermonters to make their own energy decisions free from excessive regulation.

However, we strongly oppose one remaining provision in S.65: the fuel dealer registry. With the CHS repealed, this reporting requirement serves no purpose. It creates unnecessary government oversight, adds compliance costs for small businesses, and could pave the way for similar policies in the future. We urge lawmakers to remove this registry to ensure S.65 remains a true victory for economic freedom and lower energy costs.

We commend the legislature for repealing the CHS and urge you to take the final step in eliminating lingering regulatory overreach. Vermonters deserve policies that empower, not encumber.

Thank you for your time and service to our state.

Sincerely,

Rachel Burgin Deputy Regional State Director Americans for Prosperity