

1 TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

2 The Committee on Natural Resources and Energy to which was referred
3 House Bill No. 740 entitled “An act relating to the greenhouse gas inventory
4 and registry” respectfully reports that it has considered the same and
5 recommends that the Senate propose to the House that the bill be amended by
6 striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the
7 following:

8 Sec. 1. 10 V.S.A. § 582 is amended to read:

9 § 582. GREENHOUSE GAS INVENTORIES; REGISTRY

10 * * *

11 (e) Rules.

12 (1) The Secretary may adopt rules to implement the provisions of this
13 section and shall review existing and proposed international, federal, and State
14 greenhouse gas emission reporting programs and make reasonable efforts to
15 promote consistency among the programs established pursuant to this section
16 and other programs, and to streamline reporting requirements on greenhouse
17 gas emission sources. Except as provided in subsection (g) of this section,
18 nothing in this section shall limit a State agency from adopting any rule within
19 its authority.

20 (2) The Secretary has authority to adopt rules that create a
21 comprehensive greenhouse gas emission reporting program that covers all

1 sources of emissions, including fuel suppliers. Suppliers of transportation and
2 heating fuels covered by the rules shall comply with requests from the
3 Secretary for information. The Secretary shall adopt a rule that at a minimum
4 includes the types and volume of fossil fuels sold by sector for the
5 transportation, residential, commercial, and industrial sectors and by zip code,
6 municipality, or the smallest geographic level practicable that also protects the
7 individual identities of consumers.

8 * * *

9 **Sec. 2. RULEMAKING**

10 On or before July 1, 2027, the Secretary of Natural Resources shall adopt
11 final rules for greenhouse gas emission reporting as required under 10 V.S.A.
12 § 582(e)(2).

13 **Sec. 3. APPROPRIATION AND POSITION**

14 (a) Funding. In addition to other funds appropriated to the Agency of
15 Natural Resources, in fiscal year 2027, the sum of \$300,000.00 is appropriated
16 from the General Fund to the Agency of Natural Resources to be used to draft
17 the greenhouse gas emission reporting rules, to develop a greenhouse gas
18 emission source database, and to support staff and on-going efforts required to
19 implement emission source data collection.

20 (b) Position. In fiscal year 2027, one new limited service Environmental
21 Analyst position is created in the Agency of Natural Resources.

Sec. 4. DEPARTMENT OF TAXES; REPORT

On or before January 15, 2027, the Commissioner of Taxes shall determine whether the data collected by the Agency of Natural Resources pursuant to the greenhouse gas emissions reporting rule adopted under 10 V.S.A. § 582(e)(2) could be used to reverse-harmonize the data currently collected by the Department of Taxes. If so, this may reduce the amount of data needed by the Department from fuel dealers. The Commissioner shall report back to the House Committees on Energy and Digital Infrastructure and on Ways and Means and the Senate Committees on Natural Resources and Energy and on Finance.

Sec. 5. 30 V.S.A. § 8124 is amended to read:

§ 8124. CLEAN HEAT STANDARD COMPLIANCE

* * *

(b) ~~Annual registration.~~

~~(1) Each entity that sells heating fuel into or in Vermont shall register annually with the Commission by an annual deadline established by the Commission. The first registration deadline is January 31, 2024, and the annual deadline shall be June 30 of each year after. The form and information required in the registration shall be determined by the Commission and shall include all data necessary to establish annual requirements under this chapter. The Commission shall use the information provided in the registration to determine~~

1 ~~whether the entity shall be considered an obligated party and the amount of its~~
2 ~~annual requirement.~~

3 ~~(2) At a minimum, the Commission shall require registration~~
4 ~~information to include legal name; doing business as name, if applicable;~~
5 ~~municipality; state; types of heating fuel sold; and the exact amount of gallons~~
6 ~~of each type of heating fuels sold into or in the State for final sale or~~
7 ~~consumption in the State in the calendar year immediately preceding the~~
8 ~~calendar year in which the entity is registering with the Commission, separated~~
9 ~~by type, that was purchased by the submitting entity and the name and location~~
10 ~~of the entity from which it was purchased.~~

11 ~~(3) Each year, and not later than 30 days following the annual~~
12 ~~registration deadline established by the Commission, the Commission shall~~
13 ~~share complete registration information of obligated parties with the Agency of~~
14 ~~Natural Resources and the Department of Public Service for purposes of~~
15 ~~updating the Vermont Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory and Forecast and~~
16 ~~meeting the requirements of 10 V.S.A. § 591(b)(3).~~

17 ~~(4) The Commission shall maintain, and update annually, a list of~~
18 ~~registered entities on its website.~~

19 ~~(5) For any entity not registered on or before January 31, 2024, the first~~
20 ~~registration form shall be due 30 days after the first sale of heating fuel to a~~
21 ~~location in Vermont.~~

~~(7) Entities that cease to operate shall retain their clean heat requirement for their final year of operation. [Repealed.]~~

Sec. 6. EFFECTIVE DATE

Senator _____
FOR THE COMMITTEE