115 STATE STREET MONTPELIER, VT 05633 TEL: (802) 828-2228 FAX: (802) 828-2424



SENATOR ANNE WATSON, CHAIR SENATOR TERRY WILLIAMS, VICE CHAIR SENATOR RUTH HARDY SENATOR SETH BONGARTZ SENATOR SCOTT BECK, CLERK

MEMORANDUM

To: Senator Andrew Perchlik, Chair, Senate Committee on Appropriations

From: Senator Anne Watson, Chair, Senate Committee on Natural Resources and

Energy

Date: April 9, 2025

Subject: Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Recommendations

The Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy has reviewed the proposed Fiscal Year 2026 Budget and supports the following proposals and recommendations:

Committee bills:

S.29 - Sec. 5 of S.29 contained a \$250,000 appropriation for the Agency of Natural Resources to be used for a third-party vendor administer the Chloride Contamination Reduction Program, as well as \$150,000 for a permanent classified position at ANR to administer the Chloride Contamination Reduction Program.

S.319? - positions for implementation of the Flood Safety Act, the Act 250 reform bill, or the Climate Superfund implementation (positions and contracted services) - see ANR memos

Underfunded mandates:

See memos from ANR

Non-profit funding:

The Committee has heard requests from Serve Learn Earn, Conservation Districts, the Vermont Energy Education Program.

- The Serve, Learn, Earn Program requested \$2,500,000.00 in total, which included a \$500,000 increase to the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation to be awarded to them.
- The Conservation Districts requested \$3,000,000.00 in base funding.
- The Vermont Energy Education Program requests \$200,000.00.

Other priorities: Municipal Technical Assistance Program Dam Revolving Loan Fund

Organization	Request	Requested Amount

Total: