

# PRESS RELEASE

General Assembly – 133 State Street – Montpelier, VT 05602 – 802-828-2228 – Fax: 802-828-2424

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Date:** September 11, 2018  
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## **Senate Committee Will Meet to Explore What Can Be Done to Reduce Combined Sewer Overflows into Vermont Waters**

**Wednesday, September 19, 2018, 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
ECHO Center, Burlington, VT**

On Wednesday, September 19, 2018, the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy will hold a committee meeting on the occurrences of combined sewer overflows (CSOs) from wastewater treatment plants in the State and how the State and municipalities will bring these CSOs into compliance with State and federal law, including the Vermont Water Quality Standards.

“The Vermont Senate,” said Chris Bray, Chair of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy, “is taking action because it is unacceptable to Vermonters across the state that after a heavy rainfall some beaches and swimming spots must close because of unhealthy water. These failures also undermine our goal to be a clean, desirable destination for tourists. There is work underway to address these problems, but we all want and need to see more progress sooner.”

Staff from the Agency of Natural Resources have been invited to explain the regulatory history of CSOs in the State, including the current requirements for reporting and control of discharges. Representatives of municipalities with CSOs will testify regarding the challenges of CSO management, including the different types of CSOs and the costs of eliminating CSOs. Representatives of environmental groups will provide their perspective on what should be done to address the water quality and health issues caused by CSOs. The Committee will also hear testimony regarding State and federal financing available to municipalities to implement CSO control and management.

The committee meeting will take place in Lakeside Hall of the ECHO Center in Burlington, Vermont. Committee hearings are open and the public is invited to attend; however, because of time constraints participation will be limited to members of the Committee and persons the Committee specifically invites to testify.

For information about the format of this event, contact Peggy Delaney at 802-828-2229 or email [pdelaney@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:pdelaney@leg.state.vt.us).

If you plan to attend and need accommodations, please contact Peggy Delaney at 802-828-2229 or email [pdelaney@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:pdelaney@leg.state.vt.us) by September 14, so that we can arrange the accommodations in advance.

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AUTHORIZATION

Text of press release reviewed by: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Attorney or Legislative Member) (Date)

Text authorized for release to press by: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Attorney or Legislative Member) (Date)