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H.252

Introduced by Representatives Labor of Morgan, Higley of Lowell, Page of
Newport City, Smith of Derby, and Williams of Granby
Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Municipal and county governments; municipalities; unified towns and
gores in Essex County

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to amend the
statutes governing the municipal officers in the unified towns and gores of
Essex County to hire a professional assessor.

An act relating to allowing the unified towns and gores to hire a
professional assessor

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 24 V.S.A. § 1351 is amended to read:

§ 1351. DEFINITIONS

~~In~~ As used in this chapter, ~~unless the context otherwise requires:~~

(1) “~~Appraisers~~ Assessors” means the ~~appraisers~~ assessors for the
unified towns and gores in Essex County, designated in section 1355 of this
title.

* * *

1 Sec. 2. 24 V.S.A. § 1351b is amended to read:

2 § 1351b. FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES OF BOARD OF GOVERNORS

3 * * *

4 (b) The Board of Governors shall ~~appoint the appraisers. Each of the~~
5 ~~appraisers shall be a resident of Essex County~~ hire an outside assessor.

6 (c)(1) ~~The Board of Governors shall perform the same functions and duties~~
7 ~~for the gores that a selectboard, school board, and board of civil authority~~
8 ~~perform for their municipality.~~

9 (2) ~~Except as otherwise specifically provided, the Board of Governors~~
10 ~~shall enjoy the same powers, privileges and immunities, and fees, and shall be~~
11 ~~subject to the same obligations, limitation, liabilities, and penalties in respect~~
12 ~~to the gores, as a selectboard, school board, and board of civil authority enjoy~~
13 ~~and are subject to in respect to their municipality.~~

14 (3) ~~The unified towns and gores of Essex County shall be a “municipal~~
15 ~~corporation” under subsection 1751(a) of this title and shall have the authority~~
16 ~~to incur debt, issue bonds, and borrow money in accordance with the~~
17 ~~provisions of chapter 53 of this title~~ The Board shall appoint an assessor clerk.

18 (d) The Board shall perform the same functions and duties for the gores
19 that a selectboard, school board, and board of civil authority perform for their
20 municipality.

1 Sec. 3. 24 V.S.A. § 1355 is amended to read:

2 § 1355. ~~APPRAISERS~~ ASSESSOR CLERK

3 ~~Subject to the approval of the Director of the Division of Property~~
4 ~~Valuation and Review, the supervisor shall appoint for the year 1973: one~~
5 ~~appraiser for a term of three years; one appraiser for a term of two years; and~~
6 ~~one appraiser for a term of one year. For each year thereafter, the Board of~~
7 ~~Governors shall annually appoint one appraiser for a term of three years. The~~
8 ~~Board of Governors may revoke any appointment made under this section and~~
9 ~~shall, subject to the approval of the Director of the Division of Property~~
10 ~~Valuation and Review, fill any vacancy in the Board of Appraisers~~ The Board
11 of Governors shall appoint one assessor clerk for the term of three years.

12 Sec. 4. 24 V.S.A. § 1356 is amended to read:

13 § 1356. ~~FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES OF BOARD OF APPRAISERS OF~~
14 THE ASSESSOR CLERK

15 (a) ~~The Board of Appraisers~~ assessor clerk shall perform the same
16 functions and duties for the unified towns and gores of Essex County that
17 listers perform for their municipality.

18 (b) Except as otherwise specifically provided, the ~~appraisers~~ assessor clerk
19 shall enjoy the same powers, privileges, immunities, and remuneration and
20 shall be subject to the same obligations, limitations, liabilities, and penalties in

1 respect to the unified towns and gores of Essex County as listers enjoy and are
2 subject to in respect to their municipality.

3 Sec. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE

4 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2023.