

1 H.667

2 Introduced by Representatives Casey of Montpelier, Anthony of Barre City,
3 Birong of Vergennes, Branagan of Georgia, Burke of
4 Brattleboro, Chase of Chester, Christie of Hartford, Coffey of
5 Guilford, Elder of Starksboro, Farlice-Rubio of Barnet,
6 Harrison of Chittenden, Headrick of Burlington, Hooper of
7 Burlington, Howard of Rutland City, LaBounty of Lyndon,
8 Logan of Burlington, McCann of Montpelier, McGill of
9 Bridport, Mihaly of Calais, Nugent of South Burlington,
10 Priestley of Bradford, Rice of Dorset, Sammis of Castleton,
11 Troiano of Stannard, and Williams of Barre City

12 Referred to Committee on

13 Date:

14 Subject: Commerce and trade; international trade agreements; Vermont-Ireland

15 Trade Commission

16 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to create the
17 Vermont-Ireland Trade Commission to advance bilateral trade, investment, and
18 cultural exchange between Vermont and Ireland.

19 An act relating to the creation of the Vermont-Ireland Trade Commission

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

2 ~~Sec. 1, 9 V.S.A., chapter 111B, is added to read:~~

3 CHAPTER 111B. TRADE COMMISSIONS

4 § 4129. VERMONT-IRELAND TRADE COMMISSION

5 (a) The Vermont-Ireland Trade Commission is established to advance
6 bilateral trade and investment between Vermont and Ireland. The Commission
7 shall consist of nine members to be appointed as follows:

8 (1) three members, appointed by the Governor;

9 (2) three members, appointed by the Speaker of the House; and

10 (3) three members, appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the

11 Senate.

12 (b) The purposes of the Vermont-Ireland Trade Commission are to:

13 (1) advance bilateral trade and investment between Vermont and

14 Ireland;

15 (2) initiate joint action on policy issues of mutual interest to Vermont

16 and Ireland;

17 (3) promote business and academic exchanges between Vermont and

18 Ireland;

19 (4) encourage mutual economic support between Vermont and Ireland;

20 (5) encourage mutual investment in the infrastructure of Vermont and

21 Ireland, and

1 (c) address other issues as determined by the Commission.

2 (c) The members of the Commission shall be appointed for terms of four
3 years each and shall continue to serve until their successors are appointed,
4 except that in order to achieve staggered terms, the three members appointed
5 by the Governor shall serve initial terms of two years each and the three
6 members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall serve
7 initial terms of three years each. Members may be reappointed.

8 (d) A vacancy in the membership of the Commission shall be filled by the
9 relevant appointing authority within 90 days after the vacancy.

10 (e) The Commission shall select a chair from among its members at the
11 first meeting. The Chair, as appropriate, may appoint from among the
12 Commission members subcommittees or a subcommittee at the Chair's
13 discretion. A majority of the members of the Commission shall constitute a
14 quorum for purposes of transacting the business of the Commission.

15 (f) The Commission shall submit a written report with its findings, results,
16 and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly within one
17 year of its initial organizational meeting and on or before November 1 of each
18 succeeding year for the activities of the current calendar year.

19 (g) The Vermont-Ireland Trade Commission is authorized to raise funds,
20 through direct solicitation or other fundraising events, alone or with other
21 groups, and accept gifts, grants, and bequests from individuals, corporations,

1 ~~foundations, governmental agencies, and public and private organizations and~~
2 ~~institutions, to defray the Commission's administrative expenses and to carry~~
3 ~~out its purposes as set forth in this chapter. The funds, gifts, grants, or~~
4 ~~bequests received pursuant to this section shall be deposited in a bank account~~
5 ~~and allocated annually by the Agency of Commerce and Community~~
6 ~~Development to defray the Commission's administrative expenses and carry~~
7 ~~out its purposes.~~

8 Sec. 2. INITIAL APPOINTMENT DEADLINE FOR VERMONT-IRELAND
9 TRADE COMMISSION

10 Initial appointments to the Vermont-Ireland Trade Commission shall be
11 made not later than October 1, 2024.

12 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

13 ~~This act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.~~

Sec. 1. 9 V.S.A. chapter 111B is added to read:

CHAPTER 111B. TRADE COMMISSIONS

§ 4129. VERMONT-IRELAND TRADE COMMISSION

(a) The Vermont-Ireland Trade Commission is established within the State Treasurer's office to advance bilateral trade and investment between Vermont and Ireland. The Commission shall consist of 10 members as follows:

(1) three members, appointed by the Governor;

(2) three members, appointed by the Speaker of the House,

~~(3) three members, appointed by the Senate Committee on Committees;~~
~~and~~
~~(4) the State Treasurer or designee.~~

~~(b) The purposes of the Vermont-Ireland Trade Commission are to:~~

~~(1) advance bilateral trade and investment between Vermont and Ireland;~~

~~(2) initiate joint action on policy issues of mutual interest to Vermont and Ireland;~~

~~(3) promote business and academic exchanges between Vermont and Ireland;~~

~~(4) encourage mutual economic support between Vermont and Ireland;~~

~~(5) encourage mutual investment in the infrastructure of Vermont and Ireland; and~~

~~(6) address other issues as determined by the Commission.~~

~~(c) The members of the Commission, except for the State Treasurer or designee, shall be appointed for terms of four years each and shall continue to serve until their successors are appointed, except that in order to achieve staggered terms, the three members appointed by the Governor shall serve initial terms of two years each and the three members appointed by the Speaker of the House shall serve initial terms of three years each. Members may be reappointed.~~

~~(d) A vacancy in the membership of the Commission shall be filled by the relevant appointing authority within 90 days after the vacancy.~~

~~(e) The Commission shall select a chair from among its members at the first meeting. The Chair, as appropriate, may appoint from among the Commission members subcommittees or a subcommittee at the Chair's discretion. A majority of the members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum for purposes of transacting the business of the Commission.~~

~~(f) The Commission shall submit a written report with its findings, results, and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly within one year of its initial organizational meeting and on or before November 1 of each succeeding year for the activities of the current calendar year.~~

~~(g) The Vermont-Ireland Trade Commission is authorized to raise funds, through direct solicitation or other fundraising events, alone or with other groups, and accept gifts, grants, and bequests from individuals, corporations, foundations, governmental agencies, and public and private organizations and institutions, to defray the Commission's administrative expenses and to carry out its purposes as set forth in this chapter. The funds, gifts, grants, or bequests received pursuant to this chapter shall be deposited in a bank account and allocated annually by the State Treasurer's office to defray the Commission's administrative expenses and carry out its purposes. Any monies so withdrawn shall not be used for any purpose other than the payment of~~

~~benefits and expenses under this chapter. Interest earned shall remain in the bank account.~~

~~(h) Members of the Commission shall not receive compensation or be entitled to reimbursement of expenses for their service on the Commission.~~

~~Sec. 2. INITIAL APPOINTMENT DEADLINE FOR VERMONT-IRELAND
TRADE COMMISSION~~

~~Initial appointments to the Vermont-Ireland Trade Commission shall be made not later than October 1, 2024.~~

~~Sec. 3. REPEAL; VERMONT-IRELAND TRADE COMMISSION~~

~~9 V.S.A. § 4129 (Vermont-Ireland Trade Commission) as added by this act is repealed on June 30, 2029.~~

~~Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE~~

~~This act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.~~

Sec. 1. 9 V.S.A. chapter 111B is added to read:

CHAPTER 111B. TRADE COMMISSIONS

§ 4129. VERMONT-IRELAND TRADE COMMISSION

(a) The Vermont-Ireland Trade Commission is established within the State Treasurer's office to advance bilateral trade and investment between Vermont and Ireland. The Commission shall consist of 10 members as follows:

(1) three members, appointed by the Governor;

(2) three members, appointed by the Speaker of the House;

(3) three members, appointed by the Senate Committee on Committees;

and

(4) the State Treasurer or designee.

(b) The purposes of the Vermont-Ireland Trade Commission are to:

(1) advance bilateral trade and investment between Vermont and Ireland;

(2) initiate joint action on policy issues of mutual interest to Vermont and Ireland;

(3) promote business and academic exchanges between Vermont and Ireland;

(4) encourage mutual economic support between Vermont and Ireland;

(5) encourage mutual investment in the infrastructure of Vermont and Ireland; and

(6) address other issues as determined by the Commission.

(c) The members of the Commission, except for the State Treasurer or designee, shall be appointed for terms of four years each and shall continue to serve until their successors are appointed, except that in order to achieve staggered terms, the three members appointed by the Governor shall serve initial terms of two years each and the three members appointed by the Speaker of the House shall serve initial terms of three years each. Members

may be reappointed. A member serves at the pleasure of the member's appointing authority.

(d) A vacancy in the membership of the Commission shall be filled by the relevant appointing authority within 90 days after the vacancy.

(e) The Commission shall select a chair from among its members at the first meeting. The Chair, as appropriate, may appoint from among the Commission members subcommittees or a subcommittee at the Chair's discretion. A majority of the members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum for purposes of transacting the business of the Commission.

(f) The Commission shall submit a written report with its findings, results, and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly within one year of its initial organizational meeting and on or before November 1 of each succeeding year for the activities of the current calendar year.

(g) The Vermont-Ireland Trade Commission is authorized to raise funds, through direct solicitation or other fundraising events, alone or with other groups, and accept donations, grants, and bequests from individuals, corporations, foundations, governmental agencies, and public and private organizations and institutions, to defray the Commission's administrative expenses and to carry out its purposes as set forth in this chapter. The funds, donations, grants, or bequests received pursuant to this chapter shall be deposited in a bank account and allocated annually by the State Treasurer's

office to defray the Commission's administrative expenses and carry out its purposes. Any monies so withdrawn shall not be used for any purpose other than the payment of expenses under this chapter. Interest earned shall remain in the bank account.

(h) Members of the Commission shall not receive compensation or be entitled to reimbursement of expenses by the State of Vermont for their service on the Commission.

*Sec. 2. INITIAL APPOINTMENT DEADLINE FOR VERMONT-IRELAND
TRADE COMMISSION*

Initial appointments to the Vermont-Ireland Trade Commission shall be made not later than October 1, 2024.

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