1	S.255
2	Introduced by Senators Snelling, Mazza and Miller
3	Referred to Committee on
4	Date:
5	Subject: Transportation; Chittenden County Transportation Authority; charter
6	amendment; regional transit authority
7	Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to amend the charter of the
8	Chittenden County Transportation Authority to change it to a regional transit
9	authority and allow it to combine with non-Chittenden County transit service.
10 11	An act relating to an amendment to the charter of the Chittenden County Transportation Authority
12	It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:
13	Sec. 1. Secs. 2, 3, 6, and 7 of No. 122 of the Acts of 1973 are amended to
14	read:
15	Sec. 2. Area of Operation
16	The area of operation shall be Addison, Caledonia, Chittenden County, and
17	may additionally include the boundaries of municipalities in adjoining
18	counties, if such municipalities determine to join the authority as set forth in
19	section 3 of this act, Franklin, Grand Isle, Lamoille, Orange, and Washington
20	Counties; and any other county as approved by the secretary of transportation.

1	Sec. 3. Membership in the authority
2	Membership in the authority shall consist of those municipalities
3	which elect to join the authority by majority vote of its voters present
4	and voting on said question at an annual or special meeting duly
5	warned for such purpose prior to July 1, 2010. Beginning July 1, 2010,
6	a municipality may hold an annual meeting or a special meeting for the
7	purpose of determining through election of by majority vote of its
8	voters present and voting on said question only if the municipality is
9	specifically authorized to join the authority either under Sec. 5 of this
10	act or by resolution duly passed by the Chittenden County
11	Transportation Authority Board of Commissioners. The initial meeting
12	of a municipality called to determine whether or not to join the
13	authority shall be warned in the manner provided by law, except that
14	for such meeting only, any warning need not be posted for a period in
15	excess of 20 days, any other provision of law or municipal charter to
16	the contrary notwithstanding. Membership may be terminated only in
17	the manner provided in section 8 of this act.
18	Sec. 6. Government and organization
19	(a) The officers of the authority, and their election or designation shall be
20	as follows:

1	(1) Board of commissioners. The purposes, powers, duties and		
2	responsibilities of the authority shall be exercised by the board of		
3	commissioners, consisting of two commissioners one commissioner from each		
4	municipality which is a member of this authority and two commissioners from		
5	the City of Burlington. Such commissioners shall be appointed by and serve at		
6	the pleasure of the legislative body of the member municipality. Any		
7	vacancies on the board of commissioners shall be filled by the legislative body		
8	of the respective member municipality, but in the event that the legislative		
9	body fails to appoint a commissioner within two months from the date of the		
10	occurrence of the vacancy, such vacancy shall be filled by the board of		
11	commissioners. Commissioners shall serve without pay.		
12	* * *		
13	Sec. 7. Annual budget and assessments		
14	* * *		
15	(c) The treasurer of the authority, following adoption of the budget, shall		
16	apportion the sums required to be contributed by each member municipality		
17	according to the average number of weekly miles of service for the 12 month		
18	period preceding the adoption of the budget, for each member community, as		
19	compared to the average number of weekly miles of service for all member		
20	communities for the same period formula for apportionment. The formula for		
21	apportionment may be changed by the board of commissioners with the		

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1	concurrence of all the legislative bodies of at least three-quarters of the
2	member municipalities.
3	* * *
4	Sec. 2. Sec. 48 of No. 56 of the Acts of 2003 is amended to read:
5	Sec. 48. Sec. 4(c)(11) of No. 122 of the Acts of 1973 is amended to read:
6	* * *
7	(11) Within Chittenden County and its member municipalities, to
8	acquire by the exercise of the power of eminent domain any real property
9	which it may have found necessary for its purposes, in the manner provided for
10	the condemnation of land or rights therein as set forth in sections 221-233 of
11	Title 19, and acts amendatory thereof or supplementary thereto;
12	Sec. 3. OPERATING NAME
13	The legal name of the Chittenden County Transportation Authority shall
14	remain the same, but the operating name of "Green Mountain Transportation
15	Authority" shall be used outside Chittenden County and may be used in
16	Chittenden County.
17	Sec. 4. ASSESSMENTS OF NEW MEMBERS OUTSIDE CHITTENDEN
18	COUNTY
19	Municipalities that vote to join Chittenden County Transportation Authority
20	on or after July 1, 2010, shall negotiate with the board of commissioners of the
21	Chittenden County Transportation Authority on the amount of the levy to be

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1	assessed upon the municipality and terms of payment of that assessment; and
2	the municipality may not join prior to agreement with the authority on terms of
3	the levy and payment. Upon the addition of one municipality to the
4	membership of the Chittenden County Transportation Authority from outside
5	Chittenden County, said authority shall immediately begin work on the
6	formula for assessment that will be approved in accordance with this act.
7	Sec. 5. MUNICIPALITIES AUTHORIZED TO VOTE FOR MEMBERSHIP
8	IN THE CHITTENDEN COUNTY TRANSPORTATION
9	AUTHORITY
10	(a) The following municipalities are authorized to hold an election for the
11	purpose of determining membership in the Chittenden County Transportation
12	Authority: Barre City, Berlin, Colchester, Hinesburg, Montpelier, Morrisville,
13	Richmond, St. Albans City, Stowe, and Waterbury.
14	Sec. 6. OTHER REPRESENTATION
15	Those counties in the Chittenden County Transportation Authority service
16	area that receive either local fixed or local deviated fixed route public
17	transportation service, exclusive of commuter services, from the Chittenden
18	County Transportation Authority that do not have a municipal member from
19	their county on the Chittenden County Transportation Authority Board are
20	eligible to appoint a board member to the Chittenden County Transportation
21	Authority from a member of their regional planning commission or regional

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- 1 planning commission staff to represent their interests on the Chittenden County
- 2 <u>Transportation Authority Board.</u>
- 3 Sec. 7. EFFECTIVE DATE
- 4 <u>This act shall take effect upon passage.</u>