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S.275

Introduced by Senators Harrison, Clarkson and Perchlik

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Municipal and county government; regulatory provisions; police powers of municipalities; miscellaneous regulatory authority; unoccupied commercial properties

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to authorize municipalities to assess a civil penalty to the owner of a commercial property that remains unoccupied and vacant for any 180-day period.

An act relating to municipal ordinances governing unoccupied commercial buildings

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

Sec. 1. 24 V.S.A. § 2291 is amended to read:

§ 2291. ENUMERATION OF POWERS

For the purpose of promoting the public health, safety, welfare, and convenience, a town, city, or incorporated village shall have the following powers:

* * *

1 (30) Upon the determination by a municipal building inspector or other
2 duly authorized municipal officer that a commercial building within the
3 boundaries of the municipality is persistently unoccupied or otherwise vacant,
4 and after providing notice to the property owner, to assess a civil penalty for
5 every 180 days that the building remains unoccupied.

6 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

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