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S.278

Introduced by Senators Perchlik, Bray, Hardy and Pollina

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: public property and supplies; Department of Buildings and General  
Services; State Energy Management Program

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to expand the  
type of projects that can be undertaken by the State Energy Management  
Program.

An act relating to the State Energy Management Program

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

Sec. 1. 29 V.S.A. § 168 is amended to read as follow:

§ 168. STATE ENERGY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM; REVOLVING  
FUNDS

(a) State Energy Management Program.

\* \* \*

(e) The Department of Building and General Services may utilize the  
expertise, staff, and resources of the Energy Management Program to provide  
assistance and support, including technical advice and assistance, planning,  
and project management to Vermont State Colleges, the University of

1 Vermont, hospitals and health care facilities that receive State funding, and  
2 municipalities concerning equipment replacement, studies, weatherization,  
3 construction of improvements affecting the use of energy resources, the  
4 implementation of energy efficiency and conservation measures, and the use of  
5 renewable resources.

6 (1) Monies in the Resource Management Revolving Fund and Energy  
7 Revolving Fund may be used to finance projects pursuant to this subsection.  
8 However, a Vermont State College, the University of Vermont, a hospital or  
9 health care facility, or a municipality that enters into a project pursuant to this  
10 subsection shall repay into the appropriate fund an amount that shall be equal  
11 to or greater than the full cost of the financing and of the assistance, resources,  
12 and support provided by the Energy Management Program, including all staff  
13 salary, benefits, administrative costs, and fees.

14 (2) The Commissioner of Buildings and General Services shall establish  
15 guidelines for projects pursuant to this subsection, including criteria  
16 concerning program participation, oversight, and repayment pursuant to  
17 subdivision (1) of this subsection.

18 (f) As used in this section:

19 (1) “Energy efficiency improvement” shall mean means a set of  
20 measures aimed at reducing the energy used by specific end-use devices and  
21 systems to provide light, heat, cooling, or other services without affecting the

1 level of service provided. An energy efficiency project may also include  
2 energy conservation measures; that is, a reduction in energy consumption that  
3 corresponds with a reduction in service demand.

4 (2) “Renewables” ~~shall have~~ has the same meaning as under 30 V.S.A.  
5 § 8002.

6 (3) “Resource conservation measures” ~~shall mean~~ means a set of  
7 measures, including a study, product, process, or technology, aimed at  
8 reducing overall use or consumption of energy resources in State buildings or  
9 facilities. “Resource conservation measures” ~~shall include~~ includes energy  
10 efficiency improvements.

11 ~~(f)~~(g) Beginning on or before January 15, 2015 and annually thereafter, the  
12 Department of Buildings and General Services shall report to the House  
13 Committee on Corrections and Institutions on the expenditure of funds from  
14 the State Resource Management Revolving Fund for resource conservation  
15 measures and the Energy Revolving Fund for energy efficiency improvements  
16 and the use of renewable resources. For each fiscal year, the report shall  
17 include a summary of each project receiving funding and the State’s expected  
18 savings and as to each project pursuant to subsection (e) of this section, the  
19 expected savings by the State College, the University of Vermont, a hospital or  
20 health care facility, or a municipality. The provisions of 2 V.S.A. § 20(d)

1 (expiration of required reports) shall not apply to the report to be made under  
2 this subsection.

3 Sec. 2. POSITIONS

4 (a) Two full-time, temporary positions are created in the Department of  
5 Buildings and General Services in fiscal years 2021 and 2022 to manage  
6 projects under the State Energy Management Program pursuant to 29 V.S.A.  
7 § 168(e).

8 (b) These positions shall be funded by grants or other sources of funding.  
9 No additional budget appropriation or State funds shall be used for these  
10 positions.

11 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

12 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.