

APPENDIX 1

Sec. E.810.4 COMMISSION ON FINANCING AND DELIVERY OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND CONSERVATION

(a) An eight-person commission is created, consisting of the following members: one member of the house of representatives appointed by the speaker of the house; one member of the senate appointed by the senate committee on committees; three citizen members who are not members of the general assembly, appointed by the speaker of the house; and three citizen members who are not members of the general assembly, appointed by the senate committee on committees. Citizen members shall be experienced in developing or financing affordable housing or conserving Vermont's working landscape and historic properties. The speaker of the house and the senate committee on committees shall appoint one citizen member as chair of the commission.

(b) The commission shall:

(1) identify the state requirements for housing and conservation programs and services administered by the Vermont state housing authority, the Vermont housing finance agency, the Vermont housing and conservation board and the Vermont department of economic development, housing and community development ("statewide entities");

(2) determine whether the statewide entities are taking the following steps to meet their respective state requirements:

(A) assembling multiple funding sources to address a full range of housing needs, including emergency, transitional, assisted living, multi-family rental, and homeownership;

(B) leveraging federal, state, private, and philanthropic resources;

(C) serving Vermonters with the lowest incomes and special needs;

(D) promoting housing and economic development in downtowns and village centers;

(3) review the report required by Executive Order Number 02-10 (March 18, 2010) that addresses the potential merger or consolidation of the statewide entities;

(4) determine the impact of a merger or consolidation of the statewide entities on the production of permanently affordable housing, land conservation, and historic preservation; and

(5) with respect to the Vermont housing and conservation board, determine whether it is fulfilling its statutory mission to develop permanently affordable housing and protect at-risk housing; to conserve Vermont's working landscape, important natural areas, and historic properties; and to build effective community-based nonprofit capacity to advance these goals.

(c) The commission may meet up to six times while the general assembly is not in session and shall hold at least one public hearing. The legislative council shall provide

legal and administrative support to the commission. Commission members who are not state employees are entitled to compensation and reimbursement of expenses as provided under 32 V.S.A. § 1010 to be paid for equally by the statewide entities. By January 15, 2011, the commission shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the house committees on appropriations, on government operations, and on general, military affairs and housing; and the senate committees on appropriations, on government operations, and on economic development, housing and general affairs.