



STATE OF VERMONT
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
AND FOREST PRODUCTS

REP. CAROLYN W. PARTRIDGE, CHAIR
REP. RICHARD LAWRENCE, VICE CHAIR
REP. JOHN L. BARTHOLOMEW, RANKING
MEMBER
REP. DANIEL CONNOR
REP. ALYSON EASTMAN
REP. RODNEY GRAHAM
REP. JOEY PURVIS
REP. MARJORIE RYERSON
REP. HARVEY SMITH
REP. DONALD TURNER
REP. TEO ZAGAR

MEMORANDUM

To: Rep. Johnson, Chair, House Committee on Appropriations

From: Rep. Partridge, Chair, House Committee on Agriculture & Forest Products

Date: March 11, 2015

Subject: response to Memorandum of February 12, 2015

Having reviewed the Provisions related to Agriculture in the Governor's Proposed FY 2016 Budget, the House Committee on Agriculture & Forest Products recommends the following changes:

Sec.E.100, Explanation: in line 2 of the Explanation delete "Franklin County" and substitute for that "Lake Champlain Watersheds".

Sec.E.224(a): in line 3, insert before "direct grants" the phrase "administrative expenses and".

Sec.E.224 Explanation: Delete original explanation and substitute new language: "The appropriation for the Working Lands Program is reduced with grant making focused to provide technical assistance which includes business, marketing, and transition planning, and access to capital; and matching funds for small and emerging agricultural, forestry and forest products enterprises."

Sec.E.225.3: Delete in the second to last line "established and"

Note at end of memo: The funding for the State Stipend was \$175,000 in 2014; \$160,312 in 2015 and then reduced to \$95,200 after the first FY 15 rescission. The amount listed in the memo, \$125,000, doesn't refer to anything connected with the State Stipend, for which the Governor's proposal would eliminate funding.