

From: Tim Ashe [timashe@burlingtontelecom.net]
Sent: Saturday, March 28, 2015 7:36 PM
To: Christopher Bray; Springer, Darren
Subject: Re: H.40

the bill is in Natty Resources and I think it is cleaner to have the bill go from one committee to the other. My recent experience with S.9 and S.141 confirmed for me that two committees looking at a bill at the same time is a tough road...

Darren - Can you present the bill offline to a few of my committee members Wednesday end of day. I'd like to designate a couple committee members to become particularly expert in the bill.

Tim Ashe
State Senator
Chittenden County
Chair, Senate Finance Committee

On Mar 28, 2015, at 4:52 PM, Christopher Bray wrote:

Tim,

Thank you for the heads up on scheduling. Here are a few thoughts in advance of getting together, which I think is a very good idea.

The water bill has been very time consuming—and we don't yet have the House version. I estimate that SNRE has approximately 6 additional days work to deliver a bill to finance, at which point we'd move to H.40 full-time and work to get you a bill asap — but to be realistic, given the bill's implications and complexity, I imagine we'd have to spend 6-8 full days on it (morning committee days are famously short—e.g. we've got 9.5 hours per week).

Would it make sense for Finance to look at H.40 first — as so much of what needs vetting is the new financial mechanism that will fund Tiers I, II and III?

Or, SNRE could go first and Finance could, while we worked on it, spend a day or two digging into the financial implications while we settle on more policy and planning functions that are in the bill?

So... food for thought.

In terms of getting together to talk—either at the end of the day any day, or lunch Wednesday works for me. How about you guys?

—Chris

On Mar 28, 2015, at 4:16 PM, Springer, Darren <Darren.Springer@state.vt.us> wrote:

Hi Senator Ashe and Senator Bray,

The Department stands ready to work with both committees to move H.40 forward, in whatever order you decide makes sense.

I know there are competing priorities but I'd be happy to get together with you both early this week to ensure we have a path for this bill to move. In our view it is a bill that provides good energy policy and significant ratepayer protection. Leaving it for 2016 would not, in my view, provide us enough time to make an adequate transition from the SPEED program. It would also create major uncertainty around the 2015 and 2016 projects contemplated to assist in meeting initial 2017 targets.

Please let me know when you'd like to meet. I have a few commitments in the morning this week but am free lunchtime Tues and Weds if either day works on your ends.

Thank you,
Darren

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 28, 2015, at 3:51 PM, Tim Ashe <timashe@burlingtontelecom.net> wrote:

Darren and Chris - I am quite worried that I will not be able to fulfill my commitment to get H.40 done this year if we do not get the bill VERY soon in Finance. I told Rep Klein I wanted to be done with the bill by crossover but that obviously didn't happen. I know we all have much on our plates, but I will not give short shrift to a bill with such huge financial implications...

Let's all connect sometime in the coming week to discuss.

Tim

Tim Ashe
State Senator
Chittenden County
Chair, Senate Finance Committee

Senator Christopher Bray

Addison County, Huntington & Buel's Gore