

1 H.269

2 Introduced by Representative Sibia of Dover

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE); electric vehicle charging
6 stations; rural communities; grant program; incentives

7 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to create the
8 Rural Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment Grant Program.

9 An act relating to the Rural Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment Grant
10 Program

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

12 Sec. 1. RURAL ELECTRIC VEHICLE SUPPLY EQUIPMENT GRANT
13 PROGRAM

14 (a) Definitions. As used in this section:

15 (1) “Electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE)” has the same meaning
16 as in 30 V.S.A. § 201.

17 (2) “Eligible community” means a municipality that scores at or above
18 the 75th percentile on the Agency of Administration’s Vermont Underserved
19 Communities Index, as required to be developed pursuant to the fiscal year
20 2023 budget adjustment act and designed to rank Vermont municipalities

1 based on their relative administrative capacity to access and maximize the
2 benefits of technical assistance and funding that is available from State,
3 federal, and other sources.

4 (3) “Level 1 charger” or “level 1 EVSE” means EVSE that plugs
5 directly into a standard 120-volt AC outlet and supplies an average output of
6 1.3 to 2.4 kilowatts.

7 (4) “Level 2 charger” or “level 2 EVSE” means galvanically connected
8 EVSE with a single-phase input voltage range from 208 to 240 volts AC and a
9 maximum output current less than or equal to 80 amperes AC.

10 (5) “Level 3 charger,” “level 3 EVSE,” or “direct-current fast charger
11 (DCFC),” means EVSE that uses dedicated direct current (DC) to provide
12 energy to a plug-in electric vehicle.

13 (6) “State highway” has the same meaning as in 19 V.S.A. § 1(20).

14 (b) Creation; administration.

15 (1) There is created the Rural Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment
16 (EVSE) Grant Program, which shall be administered by the Agency of
17 Commerce and Community Development in consultation with the EVSE
18 Interagency Working Group.

19 (2) The Program may build upon the Existing EVSE Grant Program and
20 shall support the deployment of EVSE, with a focus on deploying DCFC, and
21 related infrastructure in eligible communities.

1 (c) Program design.

2 (1) The Agency shall design the Program to provide incentives for
3 property owners hosting EVSE with at least one DCFC port and for
4 municipalities to improve electric infrastructure to support DCFC.

5 (2) The Agency shall prioritize providing incentives for projects in
6 eligible communities and shall only provide incentives under the Program to
7 non-eligible communities if there are not a sufficient number of applicants for
8 viable projects from eligible communities.

9 (3) The sites eligible for an incentive shall be those that are consistent
10 with State plans, including the State's National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure
11 (NEVI) Plan; the State's goals established by 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 55,
12 Sec. 30; as amended by 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 184, Sec. 4; and electric
13 distribution utility plans for the deployment of DCFC within Vermont.

14 (4) The Agency may provide incentives for the deployment of level 1
15 and level 2 chargers if the level 1 and level 2 chargers are installed in
16 conjunction with at least one DCFC port.

17 (5) The Program shall be designed to ensure that:

18 (A) not fewer than 25 additional DCFC are constructed at unique
19 locations;

20 (B) each location with an incentivized DCFC is not less than 25
21 driving miles from another location with a DCFC; and

1 (C) each location with an incentivized DCFC is within five driving
2 miles of an access point to a State highway or to the Dwight D. Eisenhower
3 National System of Interstate and Defense Highway.

4 (d) Appropriation. The sum of \$4,000,000.00 in one-time General Fund
5 monies is appropriated to the Agency in fiscal year 2024 to establish the
6 Program.

7 (e) Report. The Agency shall provide a written report on the status of the
8 Program to the House Committees on Appropriations, on Environment and
9 Energy, and on Transportation and the Senate Committees on Appropriations,
10 on Natural Resources and Energy, and on Transportation not later than January
11 15, 2024. At a minimum, the report shall include, through the end of calendar
12 year 2023, the number of incentives provided, broken out by type of EVSE or
13 infrastructure incentivized, and the total amount of money deployed in
14 incentives.

15 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

16 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2023.