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H.526

Introduced by Representatives Anthony of Barre City, Bartholomew of
Hartland, Burke of Brattleboro, Campbell of St. Johnsbury,
Casey of Montpelier, Galfetti of Barre Town, McCoy of
Poultney, McFaun of Barre Town, Morrissey of Bennington,
Roberts of Halifax, Stebbins of Burlington, and Williams of
Barre City

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Transportation; bridges; flood resilience; flooding; Barre City

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to add the
redesign of Bridge 9 in Barre City to the Agency of Transportation's Town
Highway Bridges Program.

An act relating to the redesign of Bridge 9 in Barre City

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

Sec. 1. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS

The General Assembly finds:

(1) Bridge 9, the bridge over Stevens Branch at Berlin Street in Barre
City, was a significant contributor to public and private property damage

1 during the flooding of Stevens Branch due to heavy rainfall on July 10, 2023
2 and July 11, 2023.

3 (2) In order to prevent future damage caused by the flooding of Stevens
4 Branch, Bridge 9 needs to be removed or redesigned to either increase the
5 high-water clearance of the bridge or remove and replace the existing
6 abutments of the bridge with new abutments that are alternatively placed and
7 sized to better allow for increased water flow within the Stevens Branch.

8 (3) Such a redesign will contribute to flood resilience along the Stevens
9 Branch up- and downstream of Berlin Street.

10 Sec. 2. REDESIGN OF BRIDGE 9

11 (a) The redesign of Bridge 9, the bridge over Stevens Branch at Berlin
12 Street in Barre City, is added to the Agency of Transportation's Town
13 Highway Bridges Program, with a project completion date on or before June
14 30, 2028. The bridge shall be redesigned to either increase the high-water
15 clearance of the bridge or remove and replace the existing abutments of the
16 bridge with new abutments that are alternatively placed and sized, or both, so
17 as to contribute to flood resilience along Stevens Branch up- and downstream
18 of Berlin Street.

19 (b) If Bridge 9 cannot be redesigned consistent with subsection (a) of this
20 section, then the removal of Bridge 9 is added to the Agency of

1 Transportation's Town Highway Bridges Program, with a project completion
2 date on or before June 30, 2028.

3 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

4 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.