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S.203

Introduced by Senators Sears and Collamore

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Conservation and development; natural resources; land use; Act 250;
sport shooting ranges

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to exempt from
Act 250 changes to existing sport shooting ranges that are for the purpose of
safety, abating noise, or mitigating environmental impacts.

An act relating to sport shooting ranges and Act 250

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

Sec. 1. 10 V.S.A. § 6081 is amended to read:

§ 6081. PERMITS REQUIRED; EXEMPTIONS

(a) No person shall sell or offer for sale any interest in any subdivision
located in this State, or commence construction on a subdivision or
development, or commence development without a permit. This section shall
not prohibit the sale, mortgage, or transfer of all, or an undivided interest in all,
of a subdivision unless the sale, mortgage, or transfer is accomplished to
circumvent the purposes of this chapter.

* * *

1 (w)(1) A permit or permit amendment shall not be required for a change to
2 a sport shooting range, as defined in section 5227 of this title, if each of the
3 following applies:

4 (A) The range was in operation before January 1, 2006 and has
5 operated continuously since that date.

6 (B) The change is for no other purpose than one or more of the
7 following:

8 (i) To improve the safety of range employees, users of the range,
9 or the public. The Department of Fish and Wildlife may certify that a change
10 in a sport shooting range is for this purpose and this certification shall be
11 conclusive evidence that a purpose of the change is to improve the safety of
12 employees, users, or the public.

13 (ii) To abate noise from activities at the range. A qualified noise
14 abatement professional may certify that a change in a sport shooting range is
15 for this purpose and this certification shall be conclusive evidence that a
16 purpose of the change is to abate noise from activities at the range.

17 (iii) To remediate, mitigate, or reduce impacts to air or water
18 quality from the range or the deposit or disposal of waste generated by the
19 range or its use. The Department of Environmental Conservation may certify
20 that a change in a sport shooting range is for this purpose and this certification

1 shall be conclusive evidence that such remediation, mitigation, or reduction
2 constitutes a purpose of the change.

3 (2) Obtaining a certification described in subdivision (1) of this
4 subsection shall be at the option of the range's owner.

5 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

6 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2016.