TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

The Committee on Commerce and Economic Development to which was referred House Bill No. 733 entitled "An act relating to the regulation of franchise agreements" respectfully reports that it has considered the same and recommends that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 11 V.S.A. chapter 15, subchapter 3 is amended to read:

Subchapter 3. Administrative Provisions for Business Organizations

* * *

§ 1654. FRANCHISE DESIGNATION

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Filing" means an initial registration, amendment, periodic report, or other filing with the Secretary of State as the Secretary may require.

(2) "Franchisee" and "franchisor" have the same meanings as in 16 C.F.R. § 436.1.

(b) In addition to all other requirements of a person registering with the Secretary of State pursuant to State law, a person doing business in this State as a franchisor or franchisee shall, at the time of a filing:

(1) indicate that the person is operating as a franchisor or franchisee; and

(2) provide the name of the franchisor, if the person is operating as a franchisee.

* * *

Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on January 1, 2027.

and that after passage the title of the bill be amended to read: "An act relating to designating a franchise relationship"

(Committee vote: _____)

_____

Representative _____

FOR THE COMMITTEE