

**Press Release   Wednesday, January 4, 2012**

Vermont House Agriculture Committee

MONTPELIER, VT -- The House and Senate Agriculture Committees, the House Commerce and Economic Development Committee, and the Senate Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs Committee of the Vermont legislature will hold a public hearing on the Vermont Working Lands Enterprise Investment Bill (S. 246/ H. 496), which would create a Vermont Working Lands Enterprise Investment Fund and a board to oversee that fund. The bill also envisions a national marketing campaign celebrating and promoting Vermont's working lands economy, and planning tools to support enterprises related to agriculture and forest products.

The public hearing will be held at the Vermont Statehouse, Room 11, on Wednesday, January 18, 2012, from 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm. All are welcome to come and testify. Those who want to speak will need to sign up when they arrive, and each speaker will be given 2 minutes. Written testimony is also welcome.

The Working Lands bill can be found here:

<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/docs/2012/bills/Intro/S-246.pdf>. The House and Senate bill are identical.

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