

S.38

An act relating to the Government Accountability Committee and the State Outcomes Report

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

Sec. 1. 2 V.S.A. § 970 is amended to read:

§ 970. GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE

(a) There is created a joint legislative Government Accountability Committee. The Committee shall recommend mechanisms for State government to be more forward-thinking, strategic, and responsive to the long-term needs of Vermonters. In pursuit of this goal, the Committee shall:

(1) Propose areas for the review of statutory mandates for public services that may result in service duplication and to review the alignment of financial and staff resources required to carry out those mandates.

(2) Review the legislative process for the creation and elimination of ~~positions and~~ programs and make recommendations for enhancements to the process that support greater long-range planning and responsiveness to the needs of Vermonters.

(3) Recommend strategies and tools that permit all branches of State government to prioritize the investment of federal, State, and local resources in programs that respond to the needs of the citizens of Vermont in a collaborative, cost-effective, and efficient manner. Pursuant to those strategies

and tools, functions that are not critical to an agency or department mission may be recommended for combination or elimination, while other functions may be optimized.

(4) ~~Review strategies with similar aims in other jurisdictions in the context of federal, state, and local relationships.~~ [Repealed.]

(5) Determine that data-based program-level performance measures that demonstrate program results have been adopted for the programs in each agency and department.

(6) Determine whether each agency and department is taking actions to achieve the population-level outcomes set forth in 3 V.S.A. § 2311 that are relevant to that agency or department, as shown by the manner in which the agency's or department's program-level performance measures inform population-level indicators.

(7) Ensure that the report set forth in 3 V.S.A. § 2311 regarding population-level outcomes and indicators and each agency's or department's program-level performance measures are transparent and readily accessible to the public via electronic publication.

(8) Assess the effectiveness of population-level indicators in measuring progress in achieving population-level outcomes, and annually review population-level indicators in the context of new data development.

(9) Approve the addition, amendment, or elimination of population-level indicators in accordance with 3 V.S.A. § 2311(c).

(10) [Repealed.]

(11) Assess whether and how the State of Vermont should provide funds to nonprofit organizations, including whether grants to or contracts with nonprofit organizations should require results-based accountability.

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(c) The Committee shall elect two co-chairs ~~and a clerk~~ from among its members and shall adopt rules of procedure. The Co-Chairs shall be a House and a Senate member. The Committee shall keep minutes of its meetings and maintain a file thereof. A quorum shall consist of five members.

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Sec. 2. 3 V.S.A. § 2311 is amended to read:

§ 2311. CHIEF PERFORMANCE OFFICER; ANNUAL STATE

OUTCOMES ~~ON POPULATION-LEVEL OUTCOMES~~

USING INDICATORS

(a) Report. Annually, on or before September 30, the Chief Performance Officer within the Agency of Administration shall ~~report~~ submit to the General Assembly ~~on a State Outcomes Report demonstrating~~ the State's progress in reaching the population-level outcomes for each area of Vermont's quality of life set forth in subsection (b) of this section by providing data for the

population-level indicators that are approved pursuant to the process set forth in subsection (c) of this section.

(b) Vermont population-level quality of life outcomes.

(1) Vermont has a prosperous economy.

(2) Vermonters are healthy.

(3) Vermont's environment is clean and sustainable.

(4) ~~Vermont's communities are safe and supportive~~ Vermont is a safe place to live.

(5) Vermont's families are safe, nurturing, stable, and supported.

(6) Vermont's children and young people achieve their potential;
including:

~~(A) Pregnant women and young people thrive.~~

~~(B) Children are ready for school.~~

~~(C) Children succeed in school.~~

~~(D) Youths choose healthy behaviors.~~

~~(E) Youths successfully transition to adulthood.~~

(7) Vermont's elders ~~and people with disabilities and people with mental conditions~~ live with dignity and independence in settings they prefer.

(8) Vermonters with disabilities live with dignity and in settings they prefer.

(9) Vermont has open, effective, and inclusive government ~~with a supported, motivated, and accountable State workforce.~~

~~(9)~~(10) Vermont's State infrastructure meets the needs of Vermonters, the economy, and the environment.

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Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on passage.