

Report of Committee of Conference

H.869

TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

The Committee of Conference, to which were referred the disagreeing votes of the two Houses upon House Bill, entitled:

H.869. An act relating to judicial organization and operations.

Respectfully reports that it has met and considered the same and recommends that the House accede to the Senate proposal of amendment with further proposals of amendment as follows:

First: In Sec. 1, 4 V.S.A. § 38, in subsection (a), by inserting a subdivision (3) to read as follows:

(3) In the Family Division of the Superior Court, proceedings, with the approval of the presiding judge, to assure compliance with existing court orders relating to parent-child contact; to act as a Master pursuant to V.R.C.P. 53 where no order has been made pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 1758(b); and to provide case management of proceedings with 15 V.S.A. chapters 5, 11, 15, and 18; the Master shall not have authority to determine divorce or parentage actions, parental rights and responsibilities, or spousal maintenance or modifications of such orders.

Second: In Sec. 1, 4 V.S.A. § 38, in subsection (c), by striking out “(a)(4)” and inserting in lieu thereof “(a)(3)”

Third: By striking out Sec. 8a in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec. 8a to read as follows:

Sec. 8a. SPOUSAL SUPPORT AND MAINTENANCE TASK FORCE

On or before January 15, 2017, the Family Division Oversight Committee of the Supreme Court shall report to the Senate and House Committees on Judiciary on its study of spousal support and maintenance guidelines in Vermont. The report shall include any legislative recommendations for changes to Vermont's law concerning spousal support and maintenance.

COMMITTEE ON THE PART OF
THE SENATE

SEN. RICHARD SEARS

SEN. JOHN CAMPBELL

SEN. JOSEPH C. BENNING

COMMITTEE ON THE PART OF
THE HOUSE

REP. MARTIN LALONDE

REP. VICKI STRONG

REP. MAXINE JO GRAD