

1 H.48

2 Introduced by Representatives Consejo of Sheldon, Branagan of Georgia,

3 Devereux of Mount Holly, Mrowicki of Putney and Savage of

4 Swanton

5 Referred to Committee on

6 Date:

7 Subject: General provisions; state sport; snowboarding

8 Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to make snowboarding the official

9 sport of the state of Vermont.

10 An act relating to designating snowboarding as the official state sport of
11 Vermont

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

13 Sec. 1. FINDINGS

14 In recognition of the importance that sports can play in the personal lives of

15 Vermonters and in the economic well-being of the state, the general assembly

16 finds:

17 (1) The history and growth of the sport of snowboarding is closely

18 linked to Vermont, as it is widely considered to be the birthplace of

19 snowboarding.

1 (2) In 1982, the Suicide Six Resort in Pomfret was the first resort in the
2 United States to allow snowboarding. In 1985, when Stratton Mountain
3 introduced snowboarding, only five percent of ski areas in the country
4 permitted snowboarding. Today, 97 percent of ski areas in the nation welcome
5 snowboarders on their slopes.

6 (3) In the 1980s, Vermont was the first state in the country to host what
7 is now known as a snowboard park at the Sonnenberg Ski Area in Barnard.

8 (4) The U.S. Open for Snowboarding is held in Vermont. This event is
9 the renowned first competition for snowboarding and offers an exciting
10 opportunity for the world's best snowboarders to exhibit their skills.

11 (5) Vermonters Hannah Teter from Belmont, Vermont and Ross Powers
12 from Peru, Vermont have won two gold medals in snowboarding in the last
13 two winter Olympic games.

14 (6) The United States Olympic Committee named Hannah Teter the
15 2006 Sportswoman of the Year, the top honor conferred by the committee.

16 (7) The United States Olympic Committee named former United States
17 Snowboarding Halfpipe Head Coach Bud Keene of Stowe the 2006 National
18 Coach of the Year.

19 (8) In 1977, Vermonter and snowboarder, Jake Burton Carpenter,
20 founded a snowboard company in his barn and perfected the technology to
21 build snowboards. Today, this Burlington-based company is the worldwide

1 leader in the manufacture and sale of high-quality snowboards. Jake and
2 Donna Burton Carpenter were inducted into the United States National Ski and
3 Snowboarding Hall of Fame in 2007.

4 (9) No state has designated snowboarding as its state sport.

5 (10) Designating snowboarding as the Vermont state sport will
6 encourage individuals to travel to Vermont to snowboard at the state's winter
7 sport resorts, to patronize local hotels and restaurants, and to purchase
8 Vermont-manufactured snowboarding gear at Vermont sporting goods stores.

9 Sec. 2. 1 V.S.A. § 516 is added to read:

10 § 516. STATE SPORT

11 The state sport shall be snowboarding.