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H.190

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Introduced by Representatives Canfield of Fair Haven, Acinapura of Brandon,

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Browning of Arlington, Cheney of Norwich, Hebert of Vernon,

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Komline of Dorset, Larocque of Barnet, McNeil of Rutland

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Town, Shaw of Pittsford, Stevens of Shoreham, Till of Jericho

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and Winters of Williamstown

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Referred to Committee on

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Date:

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Subject: Criminal procedure; sex offenders

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Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to prohibit convicted sex offenders

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from using a false name when creating a social networking website profile.

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An act relating to prohibiting a sex offender from using a false name when
13 creating a social networking website profile

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

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Sec. 1. 13 V.S.A. § 5411e is added to read:

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§ 5411e. SOCIAL NETWORKING WEBSITE PROFILE; USE OF FALSE

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NAME PROHIBITED

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(a) For purposes of this section, “social networking website” means an

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Internet website which:

1 (1) contains profile web pages of the members of the website that
2 include the names or nicknames of the members, photographs placed on the
3 profile web pages by the members, or any other personal or personally
4 identifying information about the members;

5 (2) contains links to other profile web pages on social networking
6 websites of friends or associates of the members which can be accessed by
7 other members or visitors to the website; and

8 (3) provides members of or visitors to the website the ability to leave
9 messages or comments on the profile web page that are visible to all or some
10 visitors to the profile web page and may also include a form of electronic mail
11 for members of the social networking website.

12 (b) A person who is required to register as a sex offender pursuant to
13 subchapter 3 of this title shall not knowingly use a false name when creating a
14 social networking website profile.

15 (c) A person who violates subsection (a) of this section shall be imprisoned
16 for not more than two years or fined not more than \$1,000.00 or both.

17 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

18 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2011.