

1 S.267

2 Introduced by Senators Sears and Fox

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Staff secure residential programs and Woodside Juvenile

6 Rehabilitation Center Study Committee

7 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to establish a

8 study committee to review the operations of the Woodside Juvenile

9 Rehabilitation Center and other staff secure residential programs.

10 An act relating to a study of staff secure residential programs and the  
11 Woodside Juvenile Rehabilitation Center

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

13 Sec. 1. STAFF SECURE RESIDENTIAL PROGRAMS AND WOODSIDE

14 JUVENILE REHABILITATION CENTER STUDY COMMITTEE;

15 REPORT

16 (a) Creation. There is created a committee to study the operations of the

17 Woodside Juvenile Rehabilitation Center and other staff secure residential

18 programs.

19 (b) Membership. The Committee shall be composed of the following

20 members:

1           (1) two current members of the Senate appointed by the Committee on  
2 Committees;

3           (2) two current members of the House of Representatives appointed by  
4 the Speaker of the House;

5           (3) the Commissioner for Children and Families or designee;

6           (4) the Defender General or designee;

7           (5) the Executive Director of the Department of State's Attorneys and  
8 Sheriffs or designee;

9           (6) a Superior judge with experience in the Family Division appointed  
10 by the Administrative Judge; and

11           (7) the Chairperson of the Vermont Coalition of Residential Programs or  
12 designee.

13           (c) Powers and duties. The Committee shall study the operations of the  
14 Woodside Juvenile Rehabilitation Center and other staff secure residential  
15 programs, including:

16           (1) changes in policy and procedure at the Woodside Juvenile  
17 Rehabilitation Center and other staff secure residential programs during the  
18 past five years; and

19           (2) the effects of Woodside's change in 2011 Acts and Resolves No. 3  
20 from a detention and treatment facility to a residential treatment facility on:

1           (A) the population for whom the Department for Children and  
2 Families is accessing Woodside;

3           (B) regulations developed by the Department for Children and  
4 Families regarding admission and treatment of minors; and

5           (C) the rehabilitation, treatment, and due process rights of minors.

6           (d) Assistance. The Committee shall have the administrative, technical,  
7 and legal assistance of the Department for Children and Families.

8           (e) Report. On or before December 15, 2014, the Committee shall submit a  
9 report with any recommendations for legislative action to the Senate and House  
10 Committees on Judiciary, the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare, and  
11 the House Committee on Human Services.

12           (f) Meetings.

13           (1) The Commissioner for Children and Families or designee shall call  
14 the first meeting of the Committee.

15           (2) The Committee shall select a chair from among its members at the  
16 first meeting.

17           (3)(A) A majority of the members of the Committee shall be physically  
18 present at the same location to constitute a quorum.

19           (B) A member may vote only if physically present at the meeting  
20 location.

1           (C) Action shall be taken only if there is both a quorum and a  
2 majority vote of the members physically present and voting.

3           (4) The Committee shall cease to exist on December 15, 2014.

4           (g) Reimbursement.

5           (1) For attendance at meetings during adjournment of the General  
6 Assembly, legislative members of the Committee shall be entitled to per diem  
7 compensation and reimbursement of expenses pursuant to 2 V.S.A. § 406.

8           (2) Members of the Committee who are not employees of the State of  
9 Vermont and who are not otherwise compensated or reimbursed for their  
10 attendance shall be entitled to per diem compensation and reimbursement of  
11 expenses pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 1010.

12       Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

13           This act shall take effect on passage.