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H.48

Introduced by Representative Branagan of Georgia

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Deputy sheriffs; study committee; salary schedules

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to create a study committee to recommend a system that equalizes pay between the State Police and deputy sheriffs.

An act relating to the creation of a committee to study the salary schedules for deputy sheriffs

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

Sec. 1. PURPOSE; INTENT

It is the intent of the General Assembly that all deputy sheriffs be salaried on a similar schedule as that of the State Police. In order to effectuate this intent, this act creates a study committee to propose to the General Assembly a compensation system that will equalize the salary schedules of deputy sheriffs with the State Police.

1 Sec. 2. DEPUTY SHERIFFS; STUDY COMMITTEE; REPORT

2 (a) Creation. There is created a deputy sheriffs study committee to propose
3 a compensation system to equalize deputy sheriff salary schedules to that of the
4 State Police.

5 (b) Membership. The Committee shall be composed of the following
6 12 members:

7 (1) two current members of the House of Representatives, not from the
8 same political party, who shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House;

9 (2) two current members of the Senate, not from the same political
10 party, who shall be appointed by the Committee on Committees;

11 (3) two current county sheriffs appointed by the Vermont Sheriff's
12 Association;

13 (4) four current deputy sheriffs appointed by the Vermont Sheriff's
14 Association;

15 (5) one representative from the Vermont State Employees Association
16 appointed by the Executive Director of the Association; and

17 (6) one representative from the Department of Human Resources
18 appointed by the Commissioner.

19 (c) Powers and duties. The Committee shall study ways to equalize the
20 income of deputy sheriffs to that of the State Police, as well as the following
21 issues:

1 (1) why the deputy sheriffs paid by the State are not paid on a similar
2 salary schedule as the State Police;

3 (2) whether the deputy sheriffs paid by the State should instead be paid
4 by the county with State reimbursement being paid directly to the county; and

5 (3) how better to provide incentives for deputy sheriffs to improve their
6 skills and remain with their respective sheriff's departments.

7 (d) Assistance. For purposes of scheduling meetings and preparing
8 recommended legislation, the Committee shall have the assistance of the Office
9 of Legislative Council and the Joint Fiscal Office.

10 (e) Report. On or before December 15, 2015, the Committee shall submit a
11 written report to the General Assembly with its findings and any
12 recommendations for legislative action.

13 (f) Meetings.

14 (1) The House co-chair shall call the first meeting of the Committee to
15 occur on or before July 15, 2015.

16 (2) A member from House of Representatives, appointed by the
17 Speaker, and a member of the Senate, appointed by the President Pro Tempore,
18 shall be the co-chairs.

19 (3) A majority of the membership shall constitute a quorum.

20 (4) The Committee shall cease to exist on December 15, 2015.

1 (g) Reimbursement.

2 (1) For attendance at meetings during adjournment of the General
3 Assembly, legislative members of the Committee shall be entitled to per diem
4 compensation and reimbursement of expenses pursuant to 2 V.S.A. § 406 for
5 no more than four meetings.

6 (2) Other members of the Committee who are not employees of the State
7 of Vermont and who are not otherwise compensated or reimbursed for their
8 attendance shall be entitled to per diem compensation and reimbursement of
9 expenses pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 1010 for no more than four meetings.

10 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

11 This act shall take effect on passage.