

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
  
10  
11  
  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19

S.128

Introduced by Senators Campion, Ayer, Balint, Baruth, Bray, Degree,  
MacDonald, and Sears

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Crimes and criminal procedure; pleadings and proof; trial

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to preclude bias  
regarding sexual orientation and gender identity as a justification or mitigating  
factor to downgrade an offense.

An act relating to bias regarding sexual orientation or gender identity in  
criminal proceedings

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

Sec. 1. 13 V.S.A. § 6566 is added to read:

§ 6566. BIAS REGARDING SEXUAL ORIENTATION OR GENDER

IDENTITY

Neither a nonviolent sexual advance nor the discovery of a person's sexual  
orientation, sex, or gender identity shall constitute a legally adequate  
provocation to mitigate the offense of murder to manslaughter, or to mitigate  
the severity of any other offense.

1       Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

2       This act shall take effect on passage.