

1 H.490

2 Senators Ayer, Lyons, and Pollina move that the Senate propose to the House
3 that the bill be amended by inserting a Sec. E.313.1 to read as follows:
4 Sec. E.313.1 18 V.S.A. chapter 95 is added to read:

5 CHAPTER 95. SUBSTANCE ABUSE ADVISORY COUNCIL

6 § 4851. PURPOSE

7 It is the purpose of this chapter to establish a council responsible for
8 evaluating Vermont’s substance abuse system of care from a health and
9 wellness perspective. The council created herein shall modernize the State’s
10 approach to substance abuse in terms of prevention, intervention, treatment,
11 and recovery by focusing on community services, balancing scarce Medicaid
12 resources, and integrating efforts with the Blueprint for Health.

13 § 4852. SUBSTANCE ABUSE ADVISORY COUNCIL

14 (a) Creation. There is created a substance abuse advisory council to foster
15 coordination and integration of substance abuse services across the substance
16 abuse system of care.

17 (b) Membership. The Council shall be composed of the following

18 19 members:

19 (1) the Chair of the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare or
20 designee;

21 (2) the Chair of the House Committee on Human Services or designee;

- 1 (3) the Secretary of Human Services or designee;
- 2 (4) the Secretary of Education or designee;
- 3 (5) the Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Health’s Division of
4 Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs;
- 5 (6) the Commissioner of Mental Health or designee;
- 6 (7) the Commissioner of Vermont Health Access or designee;
- 7 (8) the Director of the Blueprint or designee;
- 8 (9) a representative of an approved provider or preferred provider that
9 shall also be a designated agency, appointed by the Governor;
- 10 (10) a representative of an approved provider or preferred provider that
11 provides residential treatment services, appointed by the Governor;
- 12 (11) two licensed alcohol and drug abuse counselors serving different
13 regions of the State, appointed by the Governor;
- 14 (12) a physician in private practice with expertise treating substance use
15 disorders, appointed by the Governor;
- 16 (13) a representative of hospitals, appointed by the Vermont Association
17 of Hospitals and Health Systems;
- 18 (14) a representative of the criminal justice community, appointed by the
19 Governor;
- 20 (15) an educator involved in substance abuse prevention services,
21 appointed by the Governor;

1 (16) a youth substance abuse prevention specialist, appointed by the
2 Governor;

3 (17) a community prevention coalition member, appointed by the
4 Governor; and

5 (18) a member of the peer community involved in recovery services,
6 appointed by the Governor.

7 (c) Report. Annually on or before November 15, the Council shall submit a
8 written report to the House Committee on Human Services and to the Senate
9 Committee on Health and Welfare with its findings and any recommendations
10 for legislative action.

11 (d) Meetings.

12 (1) The Secretary of Human Services shall call the first meeting of the
13 Council to occur on or before August 1, 2015.

14 (2) The Council shall select a chair and vice chair from among its
15 members at the first meeting.

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

17 (e) Reimbursement.

18 (1) For attendance at meetings during adjournment of the General
19 Assembly, legislative members of the Council shall be entitled to per diem
20 compensation and reimbursement of expenses pursuant to 2 V.S.A. § 406 for
21 no more than four meetings annually.

1 (2) Members of the Council who are not employees of the State of
2 Vermont and who are not otherwise compensated or reimbursed for their
3 attendance shall be entitled to per diem compensation and reimbursement of
4 expenses pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 1010 for no more than four meetings
5 annually.

6 § 4853. ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

7 The Agency of Human Services shall provide the Council with such
8 administrative support as is necessary for it to accomplish the purposes of
9 this chapter.

10 § 4854. POWERS AND DUTIES

11 The Council shall:

12 (1) assess substance abuse services and service delivery in the State,
13 including the following:

14 (A) the effectiveness of existing substance abuse services in Vermont
15 and opportunities for improved treatment; and

16 (B) strategies for enhancing the coordination and integration of
17 substance abuse services across the system of care;

18 (2) provide recommendations to the Department of Health in its
19 development of a substance abuse system of care, including regarding the
20 integration of substance abuse services with health care reform initiatives, such
21 as pay for performance methodologies;

1 (3) provide recommendations to the General Assembly and the Agency
2 of Human Services regarding the improvement of statutes and rules governing
3 the substance abuse system of care; and

4 (4) provide recommendations to the General Assembly regarding State
5 policy and programs for individuals experiencing public inebriation.