

House Calendar

Tuesday, March 28, 2023

84th DAY OF THE BIENNIAL SESSION

House Convenes at 10:00 A.M.

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ACTION CALENDAR

Third Reading

H. 102

An act relating to the Art in State Buildings Program

H. 125

An act relating to boards and commissions

H. 206

An act relating to miscellaneous changes affecting the duties of the
Department of Vermont Health Access

H. 213

An act relating to creating a study committee on mobile homes and mobile
home parks

H. 270

An act relating to miscellaneous amendments to the adult-use and medical
cannabis programs

H. 291

An act relating to the creation of the Cybersecurity Advisory Council

H. 414

An act relating to establishing an unused drug repository for Vermont

H. 472

An act relating to miscellaneous agricultural subjects

Favorable with Amendment

H. 31

An act relating to aquatic nuisance control

Rep. Bongartz of Manchester, for the Committee on Environment and Energy, recommends the bill be amended by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. AQUATIC NUISANCE CONTROL STUDY COMMITTEE;

REPORT

(a) Creation. The Aquatic Nuisance Control Study Committee is created to assess the environmental and public health effects of the use of pesticides, chemicals other than pesticides, biological controls, and other controls in comparison to the efficacy of their use in controlling aquatic nuisances.

(b) Membership. The Aquatic Nuisance Control Study Committee shall be composed of the following members:

(1) two current members of the House of Representatives, who shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House;

(2) two current members of the Senate, who shall be appointed by the Committee on Committees;

(3) the Commissioner of Health or designee;

(4) a scientist from the Department of Fish and Wildlife, appointed by the Commissioner of Fish and Wildlife; and

(5) a scientist from the Department of Environmental Conservation, appointed by the Commissioner of Environmental Conservation.

(c) Powers and duties. The Aquatic Nuisance Control Study Committee shall submit to the Vermont General Assembly recommendations regarding whether and when pesticides, chemicals other than pesticides, or biological controls should be used to control aquatic nuisances in Vermont. The recommendations of the Committee shall include:

(1) a summary of the use of pesticides, chemicals other than pesticides, and biological controls in the lakes and ponds of Vermont since January 1, 2000, including the types of pesticides, chemicals other than pesticides, and biological controls approved for use and why they were approved instead of nonchemical controls;

(2) an assessment of the use of pesticides, chemicals other than pesticides, or biological controls on the nontarget environment or nontarget species; and

(3) recommended legislative changes to the aquatic nuisance control requirements under 10 V.S.A. chapter 50 to:

(A) implement the use of pesticides, chemicals other than pesticides, or biological controls in a more precautionary manner that ensures the protection of State waters and is designed to protect fish, reptiles, amphibians, and all other aquatic biota;

(B) establish the appropriate standard for approval of the use of pesticides, chemicals other than pesticides, and biological controls for aquatic nuisance control;

(C) amend the process for the application of an aquatic nuisance control permit in a manner that improves the opportunity for interested parties to participate in the permitting process and that ensures full transparency in the permitting process; and

(D) provide other changes that the Study Committee determines are necessary or appropriate for implementation of effective aquatic nuisance control in the State.

(d) Assistance. The Aquatic Nuisance Control Study Committee shall have the administrative, technical, and legal assistance of the Agency of Natural Resources.

(e) Report. On or before December 15, 2023, the Aquatic Nuisance Control Study Committee shall submit a written report to the House Committee on Environment and Energy and the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy with its findings and recommendations.

(f) Meetings.

(1) The Commissioner of Environmental Conservation or designee shall call the first meeting of the Aquatic Nuisance Control Study Committee to occur on or before July 31, 2023.

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

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

(4) The Aquatic Nuisance Control Study Committee shall cease to exist on April 1, 2024.

(g) Compensation and reimbursement. For attendance at meetings during adjournment of the General Assembly, a legislative member of the Aquatic Nuisance Control Study Committee serving in the member's capacity as a legislator shall be entitled to per diem compensation and reimbursement of expenses pursuant to 2 V.S.A. § 23 for not more than eight meetings. These payments shall be made from monies appropriated to the General Assembly.

(h) Definitions. As used in this section:

(1) "Aquatic nuisance" has the same meaning as in 10 V.S.A. § 1452.

(2) "Pesticide" has the same meaning as "economic poison" in 6 V.S.A. § 911.

Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on passage.

(Committee Vote: 8-2-1)

Rep. Ode of Burlington, for the Committee on Ways and Means, recommends the bill ought to pass when amended as recommended by the Committee on Environment and Energy.

(Committee Vote: 11-1-0)

Rep. Squirrell of Underhill, for the Committee on Appropriations, recommends the bill ought to pass when amended as recommended by the Committee on Environment and Energy.

(Committee Vote: 12-0-0)

H. 158

An act relating to the beverage container redemption system

Rep. Morris of Springfield, for the Committee on Environment and Energy, recommends the bill be amended by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 10 V.S.A. chapter 53 is amended to read:

CHAPTER 53. BEVERAGE CONTAINERS; DEPOSIT-REDEMPTION SYSTEM

§ 1521. DEFINITIONS

As used in this chapter:

(1) ~~“Beverage” means beer or other malt beverages and mineral waters, mixed wine drink, soda water and carbonated soft~~ all drinks in liquid form and intended for human consumption, except for milk, dairy products, plant-based beverages, infant formula, meal replacement drinks, or nonalcoholic cider. ~~“Beverage” also means liquor and ready-to-drink spirits beverage.~~

(2) ~~“Biodegradable material” means material that is capable of being broken down by bacteria into basic elements. [Repealed.]~~

(3) ~~“Container” means the individual, and separate, bottle, can, or jar, or carton composed of glass, aluminum or other metal, paper, plastic, polyethylene terephthalate, high density polyethylene, or any combination of those materials, and containing a consumer product beverage. This definition shall does not include containers made of biodegradable material~~ noncarbonated beverage containers with a volume greater than two and one-

half liters and carbonated beverage containers with a volume greater than three liters.

(4) “Distributor” means every person who engages in the sale of consumer products in containers to a dealer in this State, including any manufacturer who engages in such sales. Any dealer or retailer who sells, at the retail level, beverages in containers without having purchased them from a person otherwise classified as a distributor ~~shall be~~ is a distributor.

(5) “Manufacturer” means every person bottling, canning, packing, or otherwise filling containers for sale to distributors or dealers.

(6) “Recycling” means the process of sorting, cleansing, treating, and reconstituting waste and other discarded materials for the purpose of reusing the materials in the same or altered form.

(7) “Redemption center” means a store or other location where any person may, during normal business hours, redeem the amount of the deposit for any empty beverage container labeled or certified pursuant to section 1524 of this title.

(8) “Secretary” means the Secretary of Natural Resources.

(9) “Mixed wine drink” means a beverage containing wine and more than 15 percent added plain, carbonated, or sparkling water and that contains added natural or artificial blended material, such as fruit juices, flavors, flavoring, adjuncts, coloring, or preservatives; that contains not more than 16 percent alcohol by volume; or other similar product marketed as a wine cooler.

(10) “Liquor” means spirits as defined in 7 V.S.A. § 2.

(11) “Cider” has the same meaning as in 7 V.S.A. § 2.

(12) “Hard kombucha” means a fermented beverage produced from a mixture of steeped tea and sugar, combined with a culture of yeast strains and bacteria, that has an alcohol content of 0.5 percent or more alcohol by volume.

(13) “Plant-based beverage” means a liquid intended for human consumption that imitates dairy milk, consists of plant material suspended in water, and the primary protein source in the beverage is from plant material or a derivative of plant materials. Plant-based beverages include beverages made from rice, soy, nuts, oats, and hemp.

(14) “Vinous beverages” means all fermented beverages of any name or description manufactured or obtained for sale from the natural sugar content of fruits or other agricultural product, containing sugar, the total alcoholic content of which is not less than one percent nor more than 16 percent by volume at 60

degrees Fahrenheit. As used in this section, “vinous beverages” does not mean cider, hard kombucha, or a mixed wine drink.

§ 1522. BEVERAGE CONTAINERS; DEPOSIT

(a) Except with respect to beverage containers that contain liquor, a deposit of not less than five cents shall be paid by the consumer on each beverage container sold at the retail level and refunded to the consumer upon return of the empty beverage container. With respect to beverage containers that contain a vinous beverage, a deposit of 15 cents shall be paid by the consumer on each beverage container sold at the retail level and refunded to the consumer upon return of the empty beverage container. With respect to beverage containers of volume greater than 50 ml. that contain liquor, a deposit of 15 cents shall be paid by the consumer on each beverage container sold at the retail level and refunded to the consumer upon return of the empty beverage container. The difference between liquor bottle deposits collected and refunds made is hereby retained by the Liquor Control Enterprise Fund for administration of this subsection. Beginning on January 15, 2024 and annually thereafter, the Commissioner of Liquor and Lottery shall report to the Secretary of Natural Resources:

(1) the amount and tonnage of liquor bottles that the Department of Liquor and Lottery collected in the previous calendar year; and

(2) the redemption rate for liquor bottles in the previous calendar year.

(b) A retailer or a person operating a redemption center who redeems beverage containers shall be reimbursed by the manufacturer or distributor of such beverage containers in an amount that is three and one-half cents per container for containers of beverage brands that are part of a commingling program and ~~four~~ five cents per container for containers of beverage brands that are not part of a commingling program.

(c) [Repealed.]

~~(d) Containers shall be redeemed during no fewer than 40 hours per week during the regular operating hours of the establishment. [Repealed.]~~

§ 1522a. RULES

~~The Secretary may adopt rules, in accordance with 3 V.S.A. chapter 25, necessary for the administration of this chapter. These rules may include the following:~~

~~(1) Provisions to ensure that beverage containers not labeled in accordance with section 1524 of this title are not redeemed.~~

~~(2) Provisions to ensure that beverage containers are commingled.~~

~~(3) Administrative penalties for the failure by a redemption center or retailer to remove beverage containers that are not labeled prior to pickup by a distributor or manufacturer. Penalties may include nonpayment of the deposit and handling fee established under section 1522 of this title for a reasonable period of time and for the number of beverage containers that were not labeled.~~

~~(4) Any other provision that may be necessary for the implementation of this chapter. [Repealed.]~~

§ 1523. ACCEPTANCE OF BEVERAGE CONTAINERS

(a) Except as provided in section 1522 of this title:

(1) A retailer shall not refuse to accept from any person any empty beverage containers, labeled in accordance with section 1524 of this title, of the kind, size, and brand sold by the retailer, or refuse to pay to that person the refund value of a beverage container as established by section 1522 of this title, except as provided in subsection (b) of this section.

(2) A manufacturer or distributor may not refuse to pick up from a retailer that sells its product or a person operating a certified redemption center any empty beverage containers, labeled in accordance with section 1524 of this title, of the kind, size, and brand sold by the manufacturer or distributor, or refuse to pay the retailer or a person operating a redemption center the refund value of a beverage container as established by section 1522 of this title.

~~(b) A retailer, with the prior approval of the Secretary, may refuse to redeem beverage containers if a redemption center or centers are established that serve the public need stewardship plan that meets the requirements of section 1532 of this title has been implemented by the producer responsibility organization in the State and the retailer's building is less than 5,000 square feet.~~

~~(c) A retailer ~~or that is not exempt,~~ a person operating a redemption center, or any other point of redemption may only refuse to redeem beverage containers that are not clean, or are broken, and shall not redeem beverage containers that are not labeled in accordance with section 1524 of this title.~~

§ 1524. LABELING

~~(a)(1) Every beverage container sold or offered for sale at retail in this State shall clearly indicate by embossing ~~or,~~ imprinting on the normal product label, or ~~in the case of a metal beverage container on the top of the container,~~ other approved method secured to the container the word "Vermont" or the letters "VT" and ~~the refund value of the container~~ one of the following in not~~

less than one-eighth inch type size or such other alternate indications as may be approved by the Secretary:

(A) the refund value of the container;

(B) the words “refund value”; or

(C) the letters “RV”.

(2) The label shall be on the top lid of the beverage container, the side of the beverage container, or in a clearly visible location on the beverage container. This subsection does not prohibit including names or abbreviations of other states with deposit legislation comparable to this chapter.

(b) Each beverage container sold or offered for sale in the State that has a deposit pursuant to section 1522 of this title shall include a Universal Product Code and barcode. Each distributor shall provide the Universal Product Code and barcode as part of its beverage registration or within 60 days following March 1, 2025, whichever occurs first.

(c) The Commissioner of Liquor and Lottery may allow, in the case of liquor bottles, a conspicuous, adhesive sticker to be attached to indicate the deposit information required in subsection (a) of this section, provided that the size, placement, and adhesive qualities of the sticker are as approved by the Commissioner. The stickers shall be affixed to the bottles by the manufacturer, except that liquor that is sold in the State in quantities less than 100 cases per year may have stickers affixed by personnel employed by the Division of Liquor Control.

~~(e) This section shall not apply to permanently labeled beverage containers.~~

(d) The Secretary may allow a manufacturer, a distributor, or a retailer of vinous beverage containers to attach a conspicuous adhesive sticker to the beverage containers to indicate the deposit information required in subsection (a) of this section, provided that the size, placement, and adhesive qualities of the sticker are as approved by the Secretary. If the Secretary allows the use of an adhesive sticker under this subsection, the sticker shall be affixed by the manufacturer, the distributor, or the retailer.

* * *

§ 1527. PENALTY

~~A person who violates a provision of this chapter shall be fined not more than \$1,000.00 for each violation. [Repealed.]~~

* * *

§ 1529. REDEMPTION CENTER CERTIFICATION

A person operating a redemption center may obtain a certification from the Secretary. A redemption center certification shall include the following:

- (1) Specification of the name and location of the facility;
- (2) ~~If the certified redemption center redeems more than 250,000 containers per year, a requirement that the certified redemption center shall participate in an approved commingling agreement; and~~
- (3) Additional conditions, requirements, and restrictions as the Secretary may deem necessary to implement the requirements of this chapter. This may include requirements concerning reporting, recording, and inspections of the operation of the site.

* * *

§ 1531. MANUFACTURER PARTICIPATION IN PRODUCER

RESPONSIBILITY ORGANIZATION

(a) No manufacturer or distributor may sell or distribute a beverage container in this State without participating in a Secretary-approved producer responsibility organization.

(b) On or before January 1, 2024, manufacturers of beverage containers sold or distributed within the State shall apply to the Secretary to form a producer responsibility organization to fulfill the requirement of manufacturers under this chapter.

(c) The Secretary may approve, for a period not longer than 10 years, the producer responsibility organization, provided that:

(1) the producer responsibility organization has the capacity to administer the requirements of a stewardship plan required by section 1532 of this title; and

(2) the producer responsibility organization does not create any unreasonable barriers to joining the producer responsibility organization and shall take into the consideration the needs of small manufacturers that do not generate a significant volume of containers.

(d) After approval, the producer responsibility organization shall maintain a website that identifies:

(1) the name and principal business address of each manufacturer participating in the producer responsibility organization; and

(2) the name of each beverage and the container size covered by the stewardship plan.

(e) If the producer responsibility organization fails to implement the requirements of this chapter, the rules adopted by the Secretary, or an approved stewardship plan, the Secretary may dissolve the producer responsibility organization.

(f) If no producer responsibility organization is formed, the Secretary shall either require the formation of the producer responsibility organization or adopt and administer a plan that meets the requirements of section 1532 of this title. If the Secretary administers the plan adopted under section 1532, the Secretary shall charge each manufacturer the costs of plan administration, the Agency's oversight costs, and a recycling market development assessment of 10 percent of the plan's total cost to be deposited in the Solid Waste Management Assistance Account of the Waste Management Assistance Fund, for the purpose of providing grants to develop markets to recycle materials.

(g) The producer responsibility organization shall reimburse the Agency of Natural Resources for all oversight costs in administering this chapter.

(h) Manufacturers and distributors of liquor are exempt from the requirements of this section and the requirement to implement a stewardship plan under section 1532 of this title.

§ 1532. STEWARDSHIP PLAN; MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

(a) Plan elements. On or before October 1, 2024, an approved producer responsibility organization shall submit a stewardship plan to the Secretary. A stewardship plan shall, at a minimum, meet all of the following requirements of this section:

(1) Convenience of collection. A plan shall ensure that consumers have convenient opportunities to redeem beverage containers. The plan shall take reasonable efforts to site points of redemption equitably across all regions of the State to allow for convenient and reasonable access of all Vermonters to redemption opportunities. A plan shall document how redemption services will be available to consumers as follows:

(A) at least three points of redemption per county that provide an immediate return of a deposit to a consumer unless a waiver is granted by the Secretary;

(B) at least one point of redemption per municipality with a population of 7,000 or more persons that provides an immediate return of a deposit to a consumer unless a waiver is granted by the Secretary; and

(C) how sites of redemption are or will be sited in areas with high population density or located in centers designated under 24 V.S.A. chapter 76A.

(2) Fair operation and compensation to redemption centers. The plan shall satisfy all of the following requirements.

(A) The plan shall describe how all locations that redeem beverage containers are fairly compensated for their participation in the collection program.

(B) There shall not be barriers to the participation in the collection program for a redemption center, except for restrictions that are authorized by the Secretary.

(C) The plan shall describe how management and sorting of containers at redemption centers is minimized. The plan shall document how brand sorting will be eliminated at points of redemption.

(D) The plan shall describe how materials will be picked up from redemption centers on a timely basis.

(E) The plan shall maximize the use of existing infrastructure when establishing points of collection under subdivision (1) of this subsection (a).

(3) Education to consumers. The plan shall describe what education efforts will be undertaken to increase the number of beverage containers redeemed in the State.

(4) Consultation with stakeholders. The producer responsibility organization shall consult with stakeholders on the development of the plan. The plan shall include processes for regular consultation, which shall not be less than annually, with stakeholders including the Agency, redemption centers, municipal and private recycling organizations, and other stakeholders.

(b) Reporting. At a frequency required by the Secretary but not less than annually, the producer responsibility organization shall report the following to the Secretary:

(1) the name, address, and business hours of each redemption center participating in the approved stewardship plan;

(2) the amount, in containers and tons, and material type of beverage containers redeemed under the plan and the redemption rate by the following categories of:

(A) vinous beverage containers; and

(B) all other beverage containers;

(3) the location and amount of beverage container material that was recycled and what products that beverage container material was recycled into;

(4) the carbon impacts associated with the administration of the stewardship plan;

(5) the costs associated with administration of the stewardship plan, including the costs of collection, management, and transportation of redeemed containers and the amount received for commodities;

(6) a description of any improvements made in the reporting year to increase ease and convenience for consumers to return beverage containers for redemption;

(7) efforts taken by or on behalf of the manufacturer or distributor to reduce environmental impacts throughout the product life cycle and to increase reusability or recyclability at the end of the life cycle by material type;

(8) efforts taken by or on behalf of the producer responsibility organization to improve the environmental outcomes of the program by improving operational efficiency, such as reduction of truck trips through improved material handling or compaction or the increased use of refillable containers in a local refilling system;

(9) a description and copies of educational materials and educational strategies the producer uses for the purposes of this program; and

(10) any additional information required by the Secretary.

(c) Secretary of Natural Resources approval. The plan shall be submitted to the Secretary, and, after concluding that the elements of the plan will maximize diversion of recyclable materials, provide convenience to users, and create a more circular economy, the Secretary's approval pursuant to this subsection shall be for a period not greater than five years.

§ 1533. PROGRAM AND FISCAL AUDIT

(a) Program audit. Beginning on March 1, 2030 and every five years thereafter, the producer responsibility organization shall conduct an independent third-party program audit of the operation of the stewardship plan. The audit shall make recommendations to improve the operation of the collection program established by this chapter.

(b) Fiscal audit. Beginning on March 1, 2026 and annually thereafter, the producer responsibility organization shall conduct an independent third-party fiscal audit of the program. The fiscal audit shall provide a transparent fiscal analysis of the producer responsibility organization, its expenditures, the number of beverage containers collected, and the amount of unclaimed deposits. The audit shall also provide the redemption rate of beverage containers redeemed in the State after approval by the Secretary.

(c) Submission to Secretary. The results of each audit required under subsections (a) and (b) of this section shall be submitted to the Secretary for purposes of reviewing performance of the stewardship plan and for oversight of the requirements of this chapter.

§ 1534. BEVERAGE CONTAINER REDEMPTION RATE GOAL;

REPORT

(a) It is a goal of the State that the following minimum beverage container redemption rates shall be satisfied by the specified dates:

(1) Beginning on July 1, 2026: 75 percent.

(2) Beginning on July 1, 2030: 80 percent.

(3) Beginning on July 1, 2035: 85 percent.

(4) Beginning on July 1, 2040: 90 percent.

(b) Beginning on July 1, 2025 and annually thereafter, the Secretary of Natural Resources shall submit to the Senate Committees on Natural Resources and Energy and on Finance and the House Committees on Environment and Energy and on Ways and Means a written report containing the current beverage container redemption rate in the State for the following three categories of beverage containers:

(1) liquor bottles;

(2) vinous beverage containers; and

(3) all other beverage containers.

(c) Beginning on January 1, 2028, if the Secretary determines that the redemption rate goal established in subsection (a) of this section was not met for one or more of the beverage container categories listed under subsection (b) of this section for two consecutive years, the beverage container deposit for the category shall increase by five cents, provided that the maximum deposit for any beverage container category shall not exceed 20 cents for vinous beverage containers and liquor bottles and shall not exceed 10 cents for every other container. Within one year following the Secretary's determination under this section, manufacturers and distributors shall comply with the labeling requirements of section 1524 of this title before assessing the relevant deposit established under this subsection for the beverage container.

§ 1535. RULEMAKING

The Secretary may adopt rules, in accordance with 3 V.S.A. chapter 25, necessary for the administration of this chapter.

Sec. 2. 10 V.S.A. § 1530(c)(1) is amended to read:

(c)(1) ~~On or before January 1, 2020, and quarterly thereafter, Every quarter,~~ at the time a report is filed pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, each deposit initiator shall remit to the Commissioner of Taxes ~~any 50 percent of the abandoned beverage container deposits from the preceding quarter. The remaining 50 percent of the abandoned beverage container deposits shall be retained by the producer responsibility organization implementing the requirements of this chapter for the deposit initiator.~~ any 50 percent of the abandoned beverage container deposits from the preceding quarter. The remaining 50 percent of the abandoned beverage container deposits shall be retained by the producer responsibility organization implementing the requirements of this chapter for the deposit initiator. The amount of abandoned beverage container deposits for a quarter is the amount equal to the amount of deposits that the deposit initiator collected in the quarter less the amount of the total refund value paid out by the deposit initiator for beverage containers during the quarter.

Sec. 3. 10 V.S.A. § 1530(c)(1) is amended to read:

(c)(1) Every quarter, at the time a report is filed pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, each deposit initiator shall remit to the Commissioner of Taxes ~~50 percent of the any~~ any abandoned beverage container deposits from the preceding quarter. ~~The remaining 50 percent of the abandoned beverage container deposits shall be retained by the producer responsibility organization implementing the requirements of this chapter for the deposit initiator.~~ The amount of abandoned beverage container deposits for a quarter is the amount equal to the amount of deposits that the deposit initiator collected in the quarter less the amount of the total refund value paid out by the deposit initiator for beverage containers during the quarter.

Sec. 4. 10 V.S.A. § 7714 is amended to read:

§ 7714. TYPE 3 PROCEDURES

(a) Purpose; scope.

(1) The purpose of this section is to establish the public notice and comment requirements that the Department must follow when adopting general permits, except for general permits governed by section 7712 of this chapter, and when considering other permits listed in this section.

(2) The procedures under this section shall be known as Type 3 Procedures. This section governs each of the following:

(A) Each general permit issued pursuant to the Secretary's authority under this title other than a general permit subject to section 7712 of this chapter. However, this section does not apply to a notice of intent under a general permit.

(B) Issuance of a dam safety order under chapter 43 of this title, except for an unsafe dam order under section 1095 of this title.

(C) An application or request for approval of:

(i) an aquatic nuisance control permit under chapter 50 of this title;

(ii) a change in treatment for a public water supply under chapter 56 of this title;

(iii) a collection plan for mercury-containing lamps under section 7156 of this title;

(iv) an individual plan for the collection and recycling of electronic waste under section 7554 of this title; ~~and~~

(v) a primary battery stewardship plan under section 7586 of this title; and

(vi) approval of a stewardship plan required under chapter 53 of this title.

(b) Notice of application. The Secretary shall provide notice of an administratively complete application through the environmental notice bulletin.

(c) Notice of draft decision; comment period. The Secretary shall provide notice of the draft decision through the environmental notice bulletin and shall post the draft decision to the bulletin. The Secretary shall provide a public comment period.

(d) Public meeting. The Secretary shall hold a public meeting whenever any person files a written request for such a meeting. The Secretary otherwise may hold a public meeting at ~~his or her~~ the Secretary's discretion.

(e) Notice of final decision. The Secretary shall provide notice of the final decision through the environmental notice bulletin and shall post the final decision to the bulletin. The Secretary shall provide a response to comments.

Sec. 5. 10 V.S.A. § 1388 is amended to read:

§ 1388. CLEAN WATER FUND

(a) There is created a special fund to be known as the Clean Water Fund to be administered by the Secretary of Administration. The Fund shall consist of:

(1) revenues from the Property Transfer Tax surcharge established under 32 V.S.A. § 9602a;

(2) other gifts, donations, and impact fees received from any source, public or private, dedicated for deposit into the Fund and approved by the Secretary of Administration;

(3) 50 percent of the unclaimed beverage container deposits (escheats) remitted to the State under chapter 53 of this title;

(4) six percent of the revenues from the meals and rooms taxes imposed under 32 V.S.A. chapter 225; and

(5) other revenues dedicated for deposit into the Fund by the General Assembly.

(b) Notwithstanding any contrary provisions of 32 V.S.A. chapter 7, subchapter 5, unexpended balances and any earnings shall remain in the Fund from year to year.

Sec. 6. 10 V.S.A. § 6618(a) is amended to read:

(a) There is hereby created in the State Treasury a fund to be known as the Waste Management Assistance Fund, to be expended by the Secretary of Natural Resources. The Fund shall have three accounts: one for Solid Waste Management Assistance, one for Hazardous Waste Management Assistance, and one for Electronic Waste Collection and Recycling Assistance. The Hazardous Waste Management Assistance Account shall consist of a percentage of the tax on hazardous waste under the provisions of 32 V.S.A. chapter 237, as established by the Secretary, the toxics use reduction fees under subsection 6628(j) of this title; and appropriations of the General Assembly. In no event shall the amount of the hazardous waste tax that is deposited to the Hazardous Waste Management Assistance Account exceed 40 percent of the annual tax receipts. The Solid Waste Management Assistance Account shall consist of the franchise tax on waste facilities assessed under the provisions of 32 V.S.A. chapter 151, subchapter 13; 50 percent of the unclaimed beverage container deposits remitted to the State under chapter 53 of this title; and appropriations of the General Assembly. The Electronic Waste Collection and Recycling Account shall consist of the program and implementation fees required under section 7553 of this title. All balances in the Fund accounts at the end of any fiscal year shall be carried forward and remain a part of the Fund accounts, except as provided in subsection (e) of this section. Interest earned by the Fund shall be deposited into the appropriate Fund account. Disbursements from the Fund accounts shall be made by the State Treasurer on warrants drawn by the Commissioner of Finance and Management.

Sec. 7. SYSTEMS ANALYSIS OF BEVERAGE CONTAINER SYSTEM

On or before January 15, 2025, the Agency of Natural Resources shall submit to the House Committee on Environment and Energy and the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy a written report on:

(1) an estimate of the total system costs and savings associated with the implementation of the expanded beverage container redemption system under 10 V.S.A. chapter 53, including climate impacts;

(2) an estimate of the impacts of an expanded beverage container redemption system on the recycling system, including how much additional beverage container material will be collected by the expansion of the bottle bill; the operational savings, if any, on material recovery facilities; the loss to material recovery facilities from the removal of bottle bill material from the recycling system; and an estimate of the impacts on tipping fees at each material recovery facility;

(3) an estimate of the costs of operating a redemption center and other alternate points of redemption under a stewardship plan and a recommendation on whether the handling fee should be altered or replaced with an alternative means of compensating points of redemption;

(4) an estimate of the impact on overall recycling in the State and the redemption rates of beverage containers under 10 V.S.A. chapter 53 if the producer responsibility organization (PRO) implementing the stewardship plan under that chapter were authorized to retain 100 percent, 50 percent, or none of the abandoned beverage container deposits, including:

(A) the estimated number of beverage container redemption sites in the State under the PRO's stewardship plan under each option for the PRO's retention of the abandoned beverage container deposits; and

(B) the geographic distribution of beverage container redemption sites across the State under the PRO's stewardship plan under each option for the PRO's retention of the abandoned beverage container deposits.

(5) an estimate of the impact on the Clean Water Fund and State implementation of the State's water quality programs and regulatory requirements if the abandoned beverage container deposits were not deposited into the Clean Water Fund under 10 V.S.A. § 1388.

Sec. 8. REPEAL

10 V.S.A. § 1528 (beverage registration with ANR) and 10 V.S.A. § 1529 (redemption center certification by ANR) are repealed on March 1, 2025.

Sec. 9. IMPLEMENTATION; TRANSITION

(a) In the implementation and enforcement of the requirements of this act, the Secretary of Natural Resources may:

(1) allow beverage containers to be sold or redeemed that do not meet the labeling requirements of 10 V.S.A. § 1524;

(2) determine whether a beverage or container is subject to the requirements of 10 V.S.A. chapter 53 due to the nature of the beverage or the composition or size of the container; and

(3) exercise discretion in the administration and enforcement of the requirements of 10 V.S.A. chapter 53 for categories or types of beverages or beverage containers.

(b) This section shall be repealed on March 1, 2028.

Sec. 10. BOTTLE BILL RECYCLING AND MATERIALS REPORTING

A manufacturer or distributor collecting beverage containers subject to 10 V.S.A chapter 53 shall report recycling information to the Secretary of Natural Resources in the same manner as recycled materials are reported to the Secretary under 10 V.S.A. chapter 159. The information shall include:

(1) the amount in containers and tons and material type of beverage container collected; and

(2) the location and amount of beverage container material and what products the beverage containers were recycled into.

Sec. 11. EFFECTIVE DATES

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2023, except that:

(1) in Sec. 1, 10 V.S.A. § 1521(1) (expansion of the definition of beverage types) and 10 V.S.A. § 1522(a)(deposit for vinous beverages) shall take effect on January 1, 2027;

(2) in Sec. 1, 10 V.S.A. § 1524(b) (requiring a UPC label on containers) shall take effect on March 1, 2025;

(3) in Sec. 1, 10 V.S.A. § 1531(a) (prohibiting the sale or distribution without participating in the producer responsibility organization) shall take effect on March 1, 2025;

(4) Sec. 2 (remittance of abandoned beverage container deposits) shall take effect on January 1, 2026;

(5) Sec. 3. (repeal of remittance of beverage container deposit) shall take effect on July 1, 2031;

(6) Sec. 5 (changing the amount of funds deposited in the Clean Water Fund) shall take effect on July 1, 2031; and

(7) Sec. 6 (Waste Management Assistance Fund) shall take effect on July 1, 2031.

(Committee Vote: 10-1-0)

Rep. Ode of Burlington, for the Committee on Ways and Means, recommends the report of the Committee on Environment and Energy be amended as follows:

First: In Sec. 1, 10 V.S.A. chapter 53, in section 1522, in subsection (a), after “a deposit of” and before “five cents shall be paid”, by striking out the “not less than” and inserting in lieu thereof “~~not less than~~”

Second: In Sec. 1, 10 V.S.A. chapter 53, in section 1522, by inserting a new subsection (c) to read:

(c) Alcoholic beverages permitted to be shipped directly to a consumer under 7 V.S.A. § 277 shall be exempt from:

(1) the beverage container deposit requirement of subsection (a) of this section;

(2) the labeling requirements of section 1524 of this title; and

(3) the abandoned beverage container deposit requirements of section 1530 of this title.

Third: In Sec. 1, 10 V.S.A. chapter 53, in section 1523, in subdivision (a)(2), after “A manufacturer or distributor” and before “not refuse” by striking out “may” and inserting in lieu thereof “~~may shall~~”

Fourth: In Sec. 1, 10 V.S.A. chapter 53, in section 1524, in subdivision (a)(1), by striking out “by embossing or, imprinting on the normal product label, or” and inserting in lieu thereof “by embossing or on the normal product label, imprinting on the normal product label, or”

Fifth: In Sec. 1, 10 V.S.A. chapter 53, in section 1529, in the first sentence of the section, after “a redemption center” and before “obtain a certification” by striking out the word “may” and inserting in lieu thereof “~~may shall~~”

and in the newly designated subdivision (2), in the second sentence, after “This” and before “include requirements” by striking out “may” and inserting in lieu thereof “~~may shall~~”

Sixth: In Sec. 1, 10 V.S.A. chapter 53, in section 1531, by striking out subsection (g) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new subsection (g) to read:

(g) The producer responsibility organization shall reimburse the Secretary for the costs of overseeing the administration of the program under this chapter as follows:

(1) The Secretary shall annually provide an estimate of the costs of overseeing the administration of the program to the producer responsibility program, including staff costs, compliance, and oversight of the system.

(2) The producer responsibility organization shall provide any comments to the Secretary's budget within 30 days of receipt. The Agency of Natural Resource shall respond to all comments provided by the producer responsibility organization and may make changes to its budget in response to those comments. These comments and the responses shall be provided to the General Assembly as a part of the Secretary's budget.

(3) Reimbursement of Agency of Natural Resources costs under this subsection shall be subject to the State budgeting process, and the producer responsibility organization shall not be required to reimburse any Agency cost unless that cost is approved as a part of the Agency's budget.

Seventh: In Sec. 1, 10 V.S.A. chapter 53, in section 1532, in subdivision (b)(9), after “and educational strategies the” and before “uses for the purposes of” by striking out “producer” and inserting in lieu thereof “producer responsibility organization”

Eighth: In Sec. 1, 10 V.S.A. chapter 53, in section 1533, in subsection (b), in the last sentence, after “redeemed in the State” and before the period by striking out “after approval by the Secretary”

and in section 1533, subsection (b), by adding a new last sentence to read:

The Secretary shall approve the audit results and the redemption rate of beverage containers included in the audit.

Ninth: In Sec. 1, 10 V.S.A. chapter 53, in section 1534, by striking out subsection (c) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof new subsection (c) to read as follows:

(c) Beginning on July 1, 2025 and every five years thereafter, the Secretary of Natural Resources shall submit to the Senate Committees on Natural Resources and Energy and on Finance and the House Committees on Environment and Energy and on Ways and Means a written report containing:

- (1) the current beverage container redemption rate in the State; and
- (2) a recommendation of whether the General Assembly should enact legislation to increase the beverage container deposit in order to improve redemption of beverage containers.

Tenth: In Sec. 1, 10 V.S.A. chapter 53, by adding a section 1536 to read:

§ 1536. ANTITRUST; CONDUCT AUTHORIZED

(a) Activity authorized. A manufacturer, group of manufacturers, or producer responsibility organization implementing or participating in an approved collection plan under this chapter for the collection, transport, processing, and management of beverage container is individually or jointly immune from liability for conduct under State laws relating to antitrust, restraint of trade, unfair trade practices, and other regulation of trade or commerce under 9 V.S.A. chapter 63, subchapter 1 to the extent that the conduct is reasonably necessary to plan, implement, and comply with the producer responsibility organization's chosen system for beverage containers.

(b) Limitations on antitrust activity. Subsection (a) of this section shall not apply to an agreement among producers, groups of manufacturers, retailers, wholesalers, or the producer responsibility organization affecting the price of beverage containers or any agreement restricting the geographic area in which or customers to whom beverage containers shall be sold.

Eleventh: By striking out Secs. 2 and 3, 10 V.S.A. § 1530(c)(1), in their entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following new Secs. 2–3a to read as follows:

Sec. 2. 10 V.S.A. § 1530(c)(1) is amended to read:

(c)(1) ~~On or before January 1, 2020, and quarterly thereafter,~~ Every quarter, at the time a report is filed pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, each deposit initiator shall remit to the Commissioner of Taxes any abandoned beverage container deposits from the preceding quarter. The Commissioner of Taxes shall deposit the first \$3,000,000.00 of the abandoned beverage container deposits into the Clean Water Fund under 10 V.S.A. § 1388. The Commissioner shall return to the producer responsibility organization implementing the requirements of this chapter any abandoned beverage container deposits in excess of the amount deposited into the Clean Water Fund. The amount of abandoned beverage container deposits for a quarter is the amount equal to the amount of deposits that the deposit initiator collected in the quarter less the amount of the total refund value paid out by the deposit initiator for beverage containers during the quarter.

Sec. 3. 10 V.S.A. § 1530(c)(1) is amended to read:

(c)(1) Every quarter, at the time a report is filed pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, each deposit initiator shall remit to the Commissioner of Taxes any abandoned beverage container deposits from the preceding quarter. The Commissioner of Taxes shall deposit the first ~~\$3,000,000.00~~ \$4,000,000.00 of the abandoned beverage container deposits into the Clean Water Fund under 10 V.S.A. § 1388. The Commissioner shall return to the producer responsibility organization implementing the requirements of this chapter any abandoned beverage container deposits in excess of the amount deposited into the Clean Water Fund. The amount of abandoned beverage container deposits for a quarter is the amount equal to the amount of deposits that the deposit initiator collected in the quarter less the amount of the total refund value paid out by the deposit initiator for beverage containers during the quarter.

Sec. 3a. 10 V.S.A. § 1530(c)(1) is amended to read:

(c)(1) Every quarter, at the time a report is filed pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, each deposit initiator shall remit to the Commissioner of Taxes any abandoned beverage container deposits from the preceding quarter. The Commissioner of Taxes shall deposit the first \$4,000,000.00 of the abandoned beverage container deposits into the Clean Water Fund under 10 V.S.A. § 1388. The Commissioner shall ~~return to the producer responsibility organization implementing the requirements of this chapter~~ deposit into the Solid Waste Management Assistance Account of the Waste Management Assistance Fund any abandoned beverage container deposits in excess of the amount deposited into the Clean Water Fund. The amount of abandoned beverage container deposits for a quarter is the amount equal to the amount of deposits that the deposit initiator collected in the quarter less the amount of the total refund value paid out by the deposit initiator for beverage containers during the quarter.

Twelfth: By striking out Sec. 5, 10 V.S.A. § 1388, in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec. 5 to read:

Sec. 5. 10 V.S.A. § 1388 is amended to read:

§ 1388. CLEAN WATER FUND

(a) There is created a special fund to be known as the Clean Water Fund to be administered by the Secretary of Administration. The Fund shall consist of:

(1) revenues from the Property Transfer Tax surcharge established under 32 V.S.A. § 9602a;

(2) other gifts, donations, and impact fees received from any source, public or private, dedicated for deposit into the Fund and approved by the Secretary of Administration;

(3) the unclaimed beverage container deposits (escheats) ~~remitted to the State~~ required to be deposited to the Fund under chapter 53 of this title;

(4) six percent of the revenues from the meals and rooms taxes imposed under 32 V.S.A. chapter 225; and

(5) other revenues dedicated for deposit into the Fund by the General Assembly.

(b) Notwithstanding any contrary provisions of 32 V.S.A. chapter 7, subchapter 5, unexpended balances and any earnings shall remain in the Fund from year to year.

Thirteenth: In Sec. 6, 10 V.S.A. § 6618(a), by striking out “50 percent of the unclaimed beverage container deposits remitted to the State under chapter 53 of this title;” where it appears and inserting in lieu thereof “the unclaimed beverage container deposits allocated to the Account under chapter 53 of this title;”

Fourteenth: In Sec. 7, systems analysis, in subdivision (2), after “will be collected by the expansion of the” and before the semicolon, by striking out “bottle bill” and inserting in lieu thereof “beverage container redemption system”

and in subdivision (2) after “the loss to material recovery facilities from the removal of” and before “from the recycling system;” by striking out “bottle bill material” and inserting in lieu thereof “material collected under the beverage container redemption system”

Fifteenth: By striking out Sec. 11 (effective dates) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec. 11 to read as follows:

Sec. 11. EFFECTIVE DATES

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2023, except that:

(1) in Sec. 1, 10 V.S.A. § 1521(1) (expansion of the definition of beverage types) and 10 V.S.A. § 1522(a)(deposit for vinous beverages) shall take effect on January 1, 2027;

(2) in Sec. 1, 10 V.S.A. § 1524(b) (requiring a UPC label on containers) shall take effect on March 1, 2025;

(3) in Sec. 1, 10 V.S.A. § 1531(a) (prohibiting the sale or distribution without participating in the producer responsibility organization) shall take effect on March 1, 2025;

(4) Sec. 2 (abandoned beverage container deposits; initial Clean Water Fund amount) shall take effect on January 1, 2026;

(5) Sec. 3. (abandoned beverage container deposit; Clean Water Fund amount on expansion) shall take effect on January 1, 2027;

(6) Sec. 3a. (abandoned beverage container deposit; Solid Waste Management Assistance Account) shall take effect on July 1, 2031

(7) Sec. 5 (deposits to Clean Water Fund) shall take effect January 1, 2026.

(8) Sec. 6 (Waste Management Assistance Fund) shall take effect on July 1, 2031.

(Committee Vote: 9-3-0)

Rep. Squirrel of Underhill, for the Committee on Appropriations, recommends the bill ought to pass when amended as recommended by the Committee on Environment and Energy, and when further amended as recommended by the Committee on Ways and Means.

(Committee Vote: 8-4-0)

Amendment to be offered by Reps. Morris of Springfield, Sheldon of Middlebury, Bongartz of Manchester, Clifford of Rutland City, Logan of Burlington, Patt of Worcester, Satcowitz of Randolph, Sibilia of Dover, Smith of Derby, Stebbins of Burlington and Torre of Moretown to H. 158

First: In Sec. 1, 10 V.S.A. chapter 53, in section 1534, by striking out subsection (c) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new subsection (c) to read as follows:

(c) Beginning on January 1, 2028, if the Secretary determines that the redemption rate goal established in subsection (a) of this section was not met for one or more of the beverage container categories listed under subsection (b) of this section for two consecutive years, the beverage container deposit for the category shall increase by five cents, provided that the maximum deposit for any beverage container category shall not exceed 20 cents for vinous beverage containers and liquor bottles and shall not exceed 10 cents for every other container. Within one year following the Secretary's determination under this section, manufacturers and distributors shall comply with the labeling requirements of section 1524 of this title before assessing the relevant deposit established under this subsection for the beverage container.

Second: In Sec. 3a, 10 V.S.A. § 1530(c)(1), in the second sentence, by striking out “shall deposit the first \$4,000,000.00 of the abandoned beverage container deposits into the Clean Water Fund” and inserting in lieu thereof “annually shall deposit 50 percent or the first \$4,000,000.00, whichever is

greater, of the abandoned beverage container deposits into the Clean Water Fund”

H. 205

An act relating to establishing the Small Farm Diversification and Transition Program

Rep. Surprenant of Barnard, for the Committee on Agriculture, Food Resiliency, and Forestry, recommends the bill be amended by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 6 V.S.A. chapter 207, subchapter 4 is added to read:

Subchapter 4. Small Farmer Diversification and Transition Program

§ 4631. Small Farmer Diversification and Transition Program

(a) The Small Farmer Diversification and Transition Program is created at the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets to provide small farmers in Vermont with State financial assistance to diversify production on a farm or to transition from one form of farming to another. Assistance under the Program shall be in the form of grants. Small Farmer Diversification and Transition Program grants shall be used for costs of:

- (1) diversifying the farm products produced by the applicant;
- (2) transitioning the applicant from one form of farming to another;
- (3) processing of farm products on the farm owned or controlled by the applicant; and
- (4) development of an accessory on-farm business by the applicant.

(b) An applicant for a Small Farmer Diversification and Transition Program grant shall demonstrate to the Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets that:

- (1) the applicant is a small farmer;
- (2) the applicant houses not more than the number of animals specified under section 4857 of this title;
- (3) there is potential from the proposed diversification or transition to create additional income for the small farmer;
- (4) the applicant has a proposed plan for diversification or transition that includes possible markets for the proposed product and probable income; and
- (5) the applicant is not permitted as a medium farm or large farm at the time of application.

(c)(1) The Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets shall issue Small Farmer Diversification and Transition Program grants under this section when funds are available for the Program. The maximum amount of a grant under this section shall be \$15,000.00 per farmer per year, and all projects funded by the grant shall be completed within 12 months of receipt of the grant by the small farmer.

(d)(1) The Secretary shall provide public notice of available grants and shall provide applicants with technical assistance in complying with application requirements. The Secretary shall publicize the Small Farmer Diversification and Transition Program in newsletters, press releases, e-mail, and other communications from the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets.

(2) The Secretary shall hold the application process open beginning November 1 of each year and shall close the application period on December 31 of each year.

(3) Applications shall not be processed until the Secretary determines that the application is administratively complete and includes all required documentation required by the Secretary.

(4)(A) The Secretary shall evaluate applications based on the following criteria, which shall be weighted equally:

(i) the potential from the proposed diversification or transition to create additional income for the small farmer; and

(ii) the viability of the possible markets identified in the plan for the proposed product.

(B) The Secretary shall award grants to the applicants according to the total weighted scores beginning with the highest score until all funds are expended.

(e) As used in this subchapter:

(1) "Farm products" means:

(A) crops grown, growing, or to be grown, including:

(i) plants grown for food, feed, and fiber, but excluding trees grown for timber purposes;

(ii) Christmas trees;

(iii) maple sap;

(iv) horticultural, viticultural, or orchard crops, and

(v) pasture; and

(B) livestock, born or unborn, including goods produced in aquacultural operations; or

(C) products of crops or livestock produced by the small farmer.

(2) “Small farmer” means any person who:

(A) earns at least one-half of the person’s annual gross income from the business of farming as that term is defined in Regulation 1.175-3 issued under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986;

(B) is engaged in “farming” as that term is defined in 10 V.S.A. § 6001(22), regardless of the size of the parcel, and whose gross income from the sale of the farm products equals at least one-half of the farmer’s annual gross income; or

(C) a small farm subject to the Required Agricultural Practices.

Sec. 2. APPROPRIATION

In addition to any other funds appropriated to the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets in fiscal year 2024, \$500,000.00 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets for purposes of the Small Farmer Diversification and Transition Program. Funds appropriated under this section that are unexpended in fiscal year 2024 shall carry forward for use by the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets in fiscal year 2025 for purpose of awarding grants under 6 V.S.A. § 4631 for the Small Farmer Diversification and Transition Program.

Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2023.

and that after passage the title of the bill be amended to read “An act relating to establishing the Small Farmer Diversification and Transition Program”

(Committee Vote: 10-0-1)

Rep. Toleno of Brattleboro, for the Committee on Appropriations, recommends the report of the Committee on Agriculture, Food Resiliency, and Forestry be amended as follows:

First: In Sec. 1, 6 V.S.A. chapter 207, subchapter 4, in section 4631, in subsection (a), after the first sentence and before the second sentence by adding a new sentence to read:

The Agency staff that support the Working Lands Enterprise Board shall administer the Program.

Second: By striking out Sec. 2 , appropriation, in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec. 2 to read as follows:

Sec. 2. APPROPRIATION

In addition to any other funds appropriated to the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets in fiscal year 2024, \$350,000.00 of one-time funds are appropriated from the General Fund in fiscal year 2024 to the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets for purposes of implementing of the Small Farmer Diversification and Transition Program.

(Committee Vote: 12-0-0)

H. 222

An act relating to reducing overdoses

Rep. Whitman of Bennington, for the Committee on Human Services, recommends the bill be amended by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

* * * Needle and Syringe Disposal Expansion * * *

Sec. 1. 18 V.S.A. § 4224 is amended to read:

§ 4224. UNUSED PRESCRIPTION DRUG, NEEDLE, AND SYRINGE DISPOSAL PROGRAM

(a) The Department of Health shall establish and maintain the statewide Unused Prescription Drug, Needle, and Syringe Disposal Program to provide for the safe disposal of Vermont residents' unused and unwanted prescription drugs, needles, and syringes. The Program may include establishing secure collection and disposal sites and providing medication envelopes for sending unused prescription drugs to an authorized collection facility for destruction.

* * *

Sec. 2. REGIONAL STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS; PUBLIC NEEDLE AND SYRINGE DISPOSAL PROGRAMS

(a) Between July 1 and December 31, 2023, the Department of Health and the Blueprint for Health's Accountable Communities for Health shall facilitate a series of regional stakeholder meetings regarding public needle and syringe disposal programs. The meetings shall include representatives from municipalities, hospitals, individuals with lived experience of injection drug use, and substance use disorder service providers, with the goal of determining the appropriate placement of public needle and syringe disposal programs based on local needs, best practices, and rural access.

(b) On or before January 15, 2024, the Department shall present information to the House Committee on Human Services and to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare regarding the progress of the regional stakeholder meetings required pursuant to this section and the statewide establishment of public needle and syringe disposal programs.

Sec. 3. APPROPRIATION; COMMUNITY NEEDLE AND SYRINGE
DISPOSAL PROGRAMS

In fiscal year 2024, \$150,000.00 is appropriated from the Evidence-Based Education and Advertising Fund in 33 V.S.A. 2004a to the Department of Health's Division of Substance Use Programs to provide grants and consultations for municipalities, hospitals, community health centers, and other publicly available community needle and syringe disposal programs that participated in a stakeholder meeting pursuant to Sec. 2 of this act.

Sec. 3a. 33 V.S.A. § 2004 is amended to read:

§ 2004. MANUFACTURER FEE

(a) Annually, each pharmaceutical manufacturer or labeler of prescription drugs that are paid for by the Department of Vermont Health Access for individuals participating in Medicaid, Dr. Dynasaur, or VPharm shall pay a fee to the Agency of Human Services. The fee shall be ~~1.75~~ 2.25 percent of the previous calendar year's prescription drug spending by the Department and shall be assessed based on manufacturer labeler codes as used in the Medicaid rebate program.

* * *

Sec. 3b. PRESENTATION; NEEDLE AND SYRINGE SERVICES

On or before February 15, 2024, the Department of Health, in consultation with stakeholders, including needle and syringe service providers, individuals with lived experience of injection-use drugs, other community-based service providers, and representatives from regions of the State without a fixed site for syringe service programs, shall present to the House Committee on Human Services and to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare information addressing:

- (1) unmet needle and syringe service needs throughout the State;
- (2) required resources to ensure equitable access to needle and syringe services throughout the State; and
- (3) who is best positioned to provide needle and syringe services.

* * * Opioid Antagonists * * *

Sec. 4. 18 V.S.A. § 4240 is amended to read:

§ 4240. PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF OPIOID-RELATED
OVERDOSES

(a) As used in this section:

(1) “Health care professional” means a physician licensed pursuant to 26 V.S.A. chapter 23 or 33, a physician assistant licensed to prescribe and dispense prescription drugs pursuant to 26 V.S.A. chapter 31, an advanced practice registered nurse authorized to prescribe and dispense prescription drugs pursuant to 26 V.S.A. chapter 28, or a pharmacist licensed pursuant to 26 V.S.A. chapter 36.

(2) “Opioid antagonist” means a drug that, when administered, negates or neutralizes in whole or part the pharmacological effects of an opioid in the body.

(3) “Victim” means the person who has overdosed on an opioid ~~drug~~ or who is believed to have overdosed on an ~~opiate drug~~ opioid.

(b) For the purpose of addressing prescription and nonprescription opioid overdoses in Vermont, the Department shall develop and implement a prevention, intervention, and response strategy, depending on available resources, that shall:

(1) provide educational materials on opioid overdose prevention to the public free of charge, ~~including to substance abuse treatment providers, health care providers, opioid users, and family members of opioid users;~~

(2) increase community-based prevention programs aimed at reducing risk factors that lead to opioid overdoses;

(3) increase timely access to treatment services for opioid users, including ~~medication-assisted treatment~~ medication for opioid use disorder;

(4)(A) educate substance ~~abuse~~ use treatment providers on methods to prevent opioid overdoses;

(B) provide education, information, and training on overdose prevention, intervention, and response, including the status of legal possession of substances and harm reduction supplies, to individuals living with ~~addiction~~ opioid use disorder and participating in ~~opioid treatment programs~~, needle and syringe exchange programs, recovery programs, residential drug substance use disorder treatment programs, or correctional services;

~~(5) facilitate overdose prevention, drug treatment, and addiction recovery services by implementing and expanding~~ implement and expand hospital referral services for individuals treated for an opioid overdose; and

(6) develop a statewide opioid antagonist ~~pilot~~ program that emphasizes access to opioid antagonists to and for the benefit of individuals with a ~~history~~ of opioid use disorder;

~~(7) distribute opioid antagonists to entities in a position to assist those at risk of experiencing an opioid-related overdose; and~~

(8) establish opioid antagonist dispensing kiosks in locations accessible to those at risk of experiencing an opioid-related overdose.

(c)(1) A health care professional acting in good faith and within ~~his or her~~ the professional's scope of practice may directly or by standing order prescribe, dispense, and distribute an opioid antagonist to the following persons, ~~provided the person has been educated about opioid-related overdose prevention and treatment in a manner approved by the Department:~~

(A) a person at risk of experiencing an opioid-related overdose; or

(B) a family member, friend, or other person in a position to assist a person at risk of experiencing an opioid-related overdose.

(2) A health care professional who prescribes, dispenses, or distributes an opioid antagonist in accordance with subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be immune from civil or criminal liability with regard to the subsequent use of the opioid antagonist, unless the health professional's actions with regard to prescribing, dispensing, or distributing the opioid antagonist constituted recklessness, gross negligence, or intentional misconduct. The immunity granted in this subdivision shall apply whether or not the opioid antagonist is administered by or to a person other than the person for whom it was prescribed.

(d)(1) A person may administer an opioid antagonist to a victim if ~~he or she~~ the person believes, in good faith, that the victim is experiencing an opioid-related overdose.

~~(2) After a person has administered an opioid antagonist pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection (d), he or she shall immediately call for emergency medical services if medical assistance has not yet been sought or is not yet present.~~

~~(3) A person shall be immune from civil or criminal liability for administering an opioid antagonist to a victim pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection unless the person's actions constituted recklessness, gross~~

negligence, or intentional misconduct. The immunity granted in this subdivision shall apply whether or not the opioid antagonist is administered by or to a person other than the person for whom it was prescribed.

(e) A person acting on behalf of a community-based overdose prevention program or a licensed pharmacist shall be immune from civil or criminal liability for providing education on opioid-related overdose prevention or for purchasing, acquiring, distributing, or possessing an opioid antagonist unless the person's actions constituted recklessness, gross negligence, or intentional misconduct.

(f) Any health care professional who treats a victim and who has knowledge that the victim has been administered an opioid antagonist within the preceding 30 days shall refer the victim to professional substance ~~abuse~~ use disorder treatment services.

* * * Operation of Needle and Syringe Service Programs * * *

Sec. 5. 18 V.S.A. § 4475 is amended to read:

§ 4475. DEFINITIONS

(a) As used in this chapter:

(1) The term “drug paraphernalia” means all equipment, products, devices, and materials of any kind that are used, or promoted for use or designed for use, in planting, propagating, cultivating, growing, harvesting, manufacturing, compounding, converting, producing, processing, preparing, testing, analyzing, packaging, repackaging, storing, containing, concealing, injecting, ingesting, inhaling, or otherwise introducing into the human body a regulated drug in violation of chapter 84 of this title. “Drug paraphernalia” does not include needles and syringes, or other harm reduction supplies distributed or possessed as part of an organized community-based needle exchange program.

* * *

* * * Prescribing Medications to Treat Opioid Use Disorder * * *

Sec. 6. 8 V.S.A. § 4089i is amended to read:

* * *

(e)(1) A health insurance or other health benefit plan offered by a health insurer or by a pharmacy benefit manager on behalf of a health insurer that provides coverage for prescription drugs and uses step-therapy protocols shall not require failure on the same medication on more than one occasion for continuously enrolled members or subscribers.

(2) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prohibit the use of tiered co-payments for members or subscribers not subject to a step-therapy protocol.

(3) Notwithstanding subdivision (1) of this subsection, a health insurance or other health benefit plan offered by an insurer or by a pharmacy benefit manager on behalf of a health insurer that provides coverage for prescription drugs shall not utilize a step-therapy, “fail first,” or other protocol that requires documented trials of a medication, including a trial documented through a “MedWatch” (FDA Form 3500), before approving a prescription for the treatment of substance use disorder.

* * *

Sec. 6a. 18 V.S.A. § 4750 is amended to read:

§ 4750. DEFINITIONS

As used in this chapter:

* * *

(2) ~~“Medication-assisted treatment~~ Medication for opioid use disorder” means the use of U.S. Food and Drug Administration-approved medications, in combination with counseling and behavioral therapies, to provide a whole patient approach to the treatment of substance use disorders.

Sec. 6b. 18 V.S.A. § 4752 is amended to read:

§ 4752. OPIOID ~~ADDICTION~~ USE DISORDER TREATMENT SYSTEM

(a) The Departments of Health and of Vermont Health Access shall establish by rule in accordance with 3 V.S.A. chapter 25 a regional system of opioid ~~addiction~~ use disorder treatment.

(b) The rules ~~shall include the following requirements:~~ may address requirements for pharmacological treatment, including initial assessments, ongoing follow-up, provider education, and diversion prevention.

~~(1) Patients shall receive appropriate, comprehensive assessment and therapy from a physician or advanced practice registered nurse and from a licensed clinical professional with clinical experience in addiction treatment, including a psychiatrist, master’s or doctorate-level psychologist, mental health counselor, clinical social worker, or drug and alcohol abuse counselor.~~

~~(2) A medical assessment shall be conducted to determine whether pharmacological treatment, which may include methadone, buprenorphine, and other federally approved medications to treat opioid addiction, is medically appropriate.~~

~~(3) A routine medical assessment of the appropriateness for the patient of continued pharmacological treatment based on protocols designed to encourage cessation of pharmacological treatment as medically appropriate for the individual treatment needs of the patient.~~

~~(4)(c) Controlled substances for use in federally approved pharmacological treatments for treating opioid addiction use disorder shall be dispensed only by:~~

~~(A)(1) a treatment program authorized by the Department of Health;~~
or

~~(B)(2) a physician or advanced practice registered nurse health care provider who is not affiliated with an authorized treatment program but who meets federal requirements for use of controlled substances in the pharmacological treatment of opioid addiction use disorder.~~

~~(5) Comprehensive education and training requirements shall apply for health care providers, pharmacists, and the licensed clinical professionals listed in subdivision (1) of this subsection, including relevant aspects of therapy and pharmacological treatment.~~

~~(6) Patients shall abide by rules of conduct, violation of which may result in discharge from the treatment program, including:~~

~~(A) provisions requiring urinalysis at such times as the program may direct;~~

~~(B) restrictions on medication dispensing designed to prevent diversion of medications and to diminish the potential for patient relapse; and~~

~~(C) such other rules of conduct as a provider authorized to provide treatment under subdivision (4) of this subsection (b) may require.~~

~~(d) Controlled substances for use in treatment of opioid use disorder may be prescribed via telehealth in accordance with federal requirements.~~

~~(e) The Department of Vermont Health Access shall not require a health care provider to document a patient's adverse reaction to a medication prior to prescribing an alternative medication for opioid use disorder to the patient.~~

Sec. 6c. 18 V.S.A. § 4753 is amended to read:

§ 4753. CARE COORDINATION

Prescribing physicians and collaborating health care and addictions professionals may coordinate care for patients receiving ~~medication-assisted treatment for substance~~ medication for opioid use disorder, which may include monitoring adherence to treatment, coordinating access to recovery supports,

and providing counseling, contingency management, and case management services.

* * * Prior Authorization of Medication for Opioid Use Disorder for Medicaid Beneficiaries * * *

Sec. 7. 33 V.S.A. § 19011 is added to read:

§ 19011. MEDICATION FOR OPIOID USE DISORDER

(a) The Agency of Human Services shall provide coverage to Medicaid beneficiaries for medically necessary medication for opioid use disorder when prescribed by a health care professional practicing within the scope of the professional's license and participating in the Medicaid program.

(b) Pending approval of the Drug Utilization Review Board, the Agency shall cover at least one medication in each therapeutic class for methadone, buprenorphine, and naltrexone as listed on Medicaid's preferred drug list without requiring prior authorization.

Sec. 8. PRIOR AUTHORIZATION; MEDICATION FOR OPIOID USE DISORDER; COMMUNITY REENTRY

On or before November 1, 2023, the Joint Legislative Justice Oversight Committee shall provide recommendations to the House Committee on Human Services and to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare regarding any legislative action needed to ensure continuity of treatment for individuals reentering the community after discharge from a correctional setting, including eliminating prior authorization for medication for opioid use disorder.

Sec. 8a. REPORT; PRIOR AUTHORIZATION; SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER TREATMENT

The Department of Vermont Health Access shall research, in consultation with individuals representing diverse professional perspectives, the feasibility and costs of administering a gold card program for substance use disorder treatment in which the Agency of Human Services shall not require a health care provider to obtain prior authorization for substance use disorder treatment if, in the most recent six-month evaluation period, the Agency has approved or would have approved not less than 90 percent of the prior authorization requests submitted by the health care provider for the medication. On or before December 1, 2023, the Department's research shall be submitted

to the Drug Utilization Review Board and Clinical Utilization Review Board for review, consideration, and the provision recommendations. On or before

April 1, 2024, the Drug Utilization Review Board and Clinical Utilization Review Board shall each submit their recommendations to the House Committee on Human Services and to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare.

Sec. 8b. RULEMAKING; PRIOR AUTHORIZATION; BUPRENOPRHINE

The Department of Vermont Health Access shall amend its rules pursuant to 3 V.S.A. chapter 25 to enable health care providers in office-based opioid-treatment programs to prescribe 24 milligrams of buprenorphine without prior authorization.

* * * Recovery Residences * * *

Sec. 9. 24 V.S.A. § 4412 is amended to read:

§ 4412. REQUIRED PROVISIONS AND PROHIBITED EFFECTS

Notwithstanding any existing bylaw, the following land development provisions shall apply in every municipality:

(1) Equal treatment of housing and required provisions for affordable housing.

* * *

(G) A residential care home or group home to be operated under State licensing or registration, serving not more than eight persons who have a disability as defined in 9 V.S.A. § 4501, and a recovery residence serving not more than eight persons, shall be considered by right to constitute a permitted single-family residential use of property. This subdivision (G) does not require a municipality to allow a greater number of residential care homes or group homes on a lot than the number of single-family dwellings allowed on the lot. As used in this subdivision, “recovery residence” means a shared living residence supporting persons recovering from a substance use disorder that:

(i) Provides tenants with peer support, ~~an environment that prohibits the use of alcohol and the illegal use of prescription drugs or other illegal substances,~~ and assistance accessing support services and community resources available to persons recovering from substance use disorders.

(ii) Is certified by an organization approved by the Department of Health and that is either a Vermont affiliate of the National Alliance for Recovery Residences or another approved organization or is pending such certification. If certification is pending beyond 45 days, the municipality shall

retain its right to consider the residence pursuant to zoning bylaws adopted in compliance with 24 V.S.A. § 4411.

* * *

* * * Remove Future Repeal of Buprenorphine Exemption * * *

Sec. 10. REPEAL

2021 Acts and Resolves No. 46, Sec. 3 (repeal of buprenorphine exemption) and 4(b) (effective date; repeal of buprenorphine exemption) are repealed.

* * * Effective Dates * * *

Sec. 11. EFFECTIVE DATES

This act shall take effect on passage, except that Sec. 8 (medication for opioid use disorder) shall take effect on September 1, 2023.

(Committee Vote: 11-0-0)

Rep. Kornheiser of Brattleboro, for the Committee on Ways and Means, recommends the bill ought to pass when amended as recommended by the Committee on Human Services.

(Committee Vote: 11-0-1)

Rep. Dickinson of St. Albans Town, for the Committee on Appropriations, recommends the report of the Committee on Human Services be amended as follows:

First: In Sec. 3, appropriation; community needle and syringe disposal programs, by striking out the word “appropriated” and inserting in lieu thereof “authorized”

Second: In Sec. 4, 18 V.S.A. § 4240, in subsection (b), in subdivision (7), by removing the phrase “to entities in a position”

Third: In Sec. 9, 24 V.S.A. § 4412, in subdivision (1)(G)(i), by removing the phrase “an environment that prohibits the use of alcohol and the illegal use of prescription drugs or other illegal substances,”

Fourth: In Sec. 11, effective dates, by striking out “8” and inserting in lieu thereof “7”

(Committee Vote: 12-0-0)

H. 480

An act relating to property valuation and reappraisals

(Rep. Kornheiser of Brattleboro will speak for the Committee on Ways and Means.)

Rep. Scheu of Middlebury, for the Committee on Appropriations, recommends the bill ought to pass when amended as follows:

First: In Sec. 4, one-time appropriations; Department of Taxes, in subsection (b), by striking out “2025” following “fiscal year” and inserting in lieu thereof “2026”

Second: In Sec. 14, effective dates, by striking out subdivisions (2) and (3) in their entireties and inserting in lieu thereof new subdivisions (2) and (3) to read as follows:

(2) Sec. 3, 32 V.S.A. § 4041a(a), (repeal of per parcel fee) shall take effect on January 1, 2026; and

(3) Secs. 5, 32 V.S.A. § 4041a, (repeal of municipal requirement to conduct reappraisals), 6, 32 V.S.A. § 5413, (State appraisal, reappraisal, and litigation assistance program), and 7, 32 V.S.A. § 5405(f), (per parcel fee) shall take effect on July 1, 2026.

(Committee Vote: 12-0-0)

Action Postponed Until March 29, 2023

Favorable with Amendment

H. 483

An act relating to the accountability and oversight of approved independent schools that are eligible to receive public tuition

(Rep. Conlon of Cornwall will speak for the Committee on Education.)

NOTICE CALENDAR

Favorable with Amendment

H. 276

An act relating to creating a rental housing registry

Rep. Stevens of Waterbury, for the Committee on General and Housing, recommends the bill be amended by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

* * * Rental Housing Registration * * *

Sec. 1. 20 V.S.A. § 2678 is added to read:

§ 2678. RENTAL HOUSING REGISTRATION

(a) Registration. Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b) of this section, annually on or before March 1, the owner of each unit of rental housing that in the previous year was leased or offered for lease shall pay to the Department of Housing and Community Development an annual registration fee of \$35.00 per unit and provide the following information:

(1) the name and mailing address of the owner, landlord, and property manager of the unit, as applicable;

(2) the phone number and electronic mail address of the owner, landlord, and property manager of the unit, as available;

(3) the location of the unit;

(4) the year built;

(5) the type of rental unit;

(6) the number of units in the building;

(7) the school property account number;

(8) the accessibility of the unit; and

(9) any other information the Department deems appropriate.

(b) Exceptions.

(1) Unit licensed or registered with another program.

(A) Local rental housing health and safety program.

(i) The registration requirement imposed in subsection (a) of this section does not apply to a unit that is currently registered with a municipal, district, or other local government rental housing health and safety program that requires the owner to register the unit and provide the data required in subsection (a) of this section.

(ii) The fee requirement imposed in subsection (a) of this section does not apply to a unit that is currently registered with a municipal, district, or other local government rental housing health and safety program that requires the owner to register the unit and provide the data required in subsection (a) of this section and for which program the owner is required to pay a registration fee.

(B) Licensed lodging establishment. The registration and fee requirements imposed in subsection (a) of this section do not apply to a lodging establishment, as defined in 18 V.S.A. § 4301, that is required to be licensed by the Department of Health.

(C) Registered mobile home lot.

(i) The registration requirement imposed in subsection (a) of this section does not apply to a mobile home lot within a mobile home park if:

(I) the owner has registered the lot with the Department of Housing and Community Development pursuant to 10 V.S.A. § 6254; and

(II) the owner does not own a mobile home on the lot.

(ii) An owner of a mobile home lot within a mobile home park who has registered the lot with the Department and who owns a mobile home on the lot that is available for rent or rented shall register the property with the Department pursuant to subsection (a) of this section and pay a fee equal to the fee required, less any fee paid within the previous 12 months pursuant to 10 V.S.A. § 6254(c).

(2) Unit not offered to general public. The registration and fee requirements imposed in subsection (a) of this section do not apply to a unit that an owner provides to another person, whether or not for consideration, if, and only to the extent that, the owner does not otherwise make the unit available for lease to the general public, and includes:

(A) housing provided to a member of the owner's family or personal acquaintances;

(B) housing provided to a person who is not related to a member of the owner's household and who occupies the housing as part of a nonprofit home-sharing program;

(C) housing provided to a person who provides personal care to the owner or a member of the owner's household; and

(D) housing provided as a benefit of farm employment, as defined in 9 V.S.A. § 4469a(a)(3).

(3) Non-permanent residence; inadequate facilities. The registration and fee requirements imposed in subsection (a) of this section do not apply to a unit that is not designed or constructed for use as a permanent residence, including a unit that does not have adequate potable water or sanitation facilities, electricity, heat, or insulation.

(c) Administration.

(1) The Department of Housing and Community Development shall maintain the registry of rental housing data in coordination with the Department of Public Safety, the Department of Health, the Enhanced 911 Board, and the Department of Taxes.

(2) Upon request, and at least annually, a municipal, district, or other local government entity that operates a rental housing health and safety program that requires registration of a rental housing unit and a fee for inclusion on its registry shall provide to the Department of Housing and Community Development the data for each unit that is required pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

(d) Protection, permissible use, and disclosure of data.

(1) The data the Department collects pursuant to this section is exempt from public inspection and copying pursuant to 1 V.S.A. § 317(c)(1).

(2) The Department may only disclose data it collects pursuant to this section:

(A) to other State, municipal, or regional government entities;

(B) to nonprofit organizations; or

(C) to other persons for the purposes of protecting public health and safety.

(3) The Department:

(A) shall not disclose data it collects pursuant to this section for a commercial purpose; and

(B) shall require, as a condition of receiving data collected pursuant to this section, that a person to whom the Department discloses the data takes steps necessary to protect the privacy of persons whom the data concerns and to prevent further disclosure.

(e) Rental Housing Safety Special Fund. The Department shall maintain the fees collected pursuant to this section in a special fund entitled the Rental Housing Safety Special Fund, the proceeds of which the Department shall use to design and implement the registry created in, and to administer and enforce the registry requirements of, this section.

* * * Penalty for Failure to Register * * *

Sec. 2. 20 V.S.A. § 2678(e) is added to read:

(e) Failure to register; penalty. The Department of Housing and Community Development shall impose an administrative penalty of not more than \$200.00 per unit for an owner of rental housing who knowingly fails to register or pay the fee required pursuant to this section.

* * * Positions Authorized * * *

Sec. 3. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY

DEVELOPMENT; POSITIONS

(a) The Department of Housing and Community Development is authorized to create one full-time classified position and one half-time classified position to design and implement the registry created in, and to administer and enforce the registry requirements of, 20 V.S.A. § 2678.

(b) The Department may hire staff authorized by this section to the extent funds become available from an appropriation for that purpose or from the Rental Housing Safety Special Fund created and maintained pursuant to 20 V.S.A. § 2678(e).

* * * ADS; Project Scope * * *

Sec. 4. AGENCY OF DIGITAL SERVICES; PROJECT SCOPE

APPROPRIATION

(a) On or before January 15, 2024, the Agency of Digital Services, in coordination with the Department of Housing and Community Development and the Rental Housing Advisory Board, shall conduct a project assessment, through and including a Request for Information, to assess the costs for creating and maintaining a rental housing registration database consistent with Sec. 1 of this act, and shall report its findings, recommendations, and cost estimates to the House Committees on General and Housing and on Appropriations and the Senate Committees on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs and on Appropriations.

(b) In fiscal year 2024 the amount of \$25,000.00 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Agency of Digital Services to implement this section.

* * * Crisis Standards of Housing; Homelessness Response Analysis * * *

Sec. 5. CRISIS STANDARDS OF HOUSING

On or before November 1, 2023, the Department for Children and Families shall develop and submit a plan to implement crisis standards for housing to the House Committees on Human Services and on General and Housing and to the Senate Committees on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs and on Health and Welfare. In developing the plan, the Department shall consult with stakeholders who specialize in homelessness prevention and mitigation, including those organizations who participated in developing the Vermont Roadmap to End Homelessness developed pursuant to 2016 Acts and Resolves No. 172, Sec. B.1102(a).

Sec. 6. HOMELESSNESS RESPONSE SYSTEMS ANALYSIS

(a) On or before September 1, 2023, the Agency of Human Services shall convene a working group, including individuals with lived experience of homelessness, local and statewide representatives of the Continuums of Care Program, representatives of housing- and homelessness-related organizations, to review, develop, and provide recommendations on Vermont’s homelessness response and prevention programs and governance system, including any success measures that incorporate recent and relevant assessments and statewide plans.

(b)(1) On or before March 1, 2024, the working group established pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall submit its findings and recommendations to the House Committees on Human Services and on General and Housing and to the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs to align with the federal goal to reduce homelessness by 25 percent by 2025, in accordance with the Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness, including strategies to:

(A) address racial and other disparities, as well as the multiplier effects of two or more concurrent risk factors, among people experiencing homelessness;

(B) justify State and local action through research of quantitative and qualitative data, including the perspectives of individuals who have or are currently experiencing homelessness;

(C) eliminate the silos between State and local governments and organizations; public, private, and philanthropic sectors; and individuals who have or are currently experiencing homelessness;

(D) increase the supply of and access to safe, affordable, and accessible housing and tailored supports for individuals at risk of or currently experiencing homelessness;

(E) improve response systems to meet the urgent crisis of homelessness, especially unsheltered homelessness; and

(F) reduce the risk of housing instability for households most likely to experience homelessness.

(2) On or before January 1, 2024, the working group shall submit an interim report on its work pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection (b) to the House Committees on Human Services and on General and Housing and to the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs.

Sec. 7. EFFECTIVE DATES

(a) This section and Secs. 5–6 (crisis housing; homelessness) shall take effect on passage.

(b) Sec. 4 (ADS report) shall take effect on July 1, 2023.

(c) Sec. 1 (registration) and Sec. 3 (DHCD positions) take effect on July 1, 2025.

(d) Sec. 2 (administrative penalty for failure to register) takes effect on March 1, 2026.

(Committee Vote: 9-0-1)

Rep. Sims of Craftsbury, for the Committee on Ways and Means, recommends the report of the Committee on General and Housing be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

* * * Rental Housing Registry; ADS; Project Scope * * *

Sec. 1. RENTAL HOUSING REGISTRY; PROJECT SCOPE; REPORT

(a) The Agency of Digital Services, in coordination with the Department of Housing and Community Development and the Rental Housing Advisory Board, shall conduct a project assessment, through and including a Request for Information, to assess the design, implementation, and associated costs for creating and maintaining a rental housing registry, including:

(1) using an existing framework, including the landlord certificate and associated data collected pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 6069; and

(2) using a new framework for an annual registration requirement for long-term and short-term rental housing.

(b) For each assessment, the report shall address:

(1) the operating cost, including the amount of any new registration fee, necessary to support the design, implementation, and maintenance of a registry;

(2) the technological requirements and associated administrative costs for transferring data between a registry and other registration and licensing programs, including local housing programs and other State registries or sources of housing data; and

(3) the technological requirements and recommended best practices for ensuring data security and privacy.

(c) On or before December 15, 2024, the Agency, Department, and Board shall report their findings, recommendations, and cost estimates to the House

Committees on General and Housing, on Ways and Means, and on Appropriations and the Senate Committees on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs, on Finance, and on Appropriations.

Sec. 2. AGENCY OF DIGITAL SERVICES; PROJECT SCOPE

APPROPRIATION

In fiscal year 2024, the amount of \$25,000.00 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Agency of Digital Services to implement Sec. 1 of this act.

* * * Crisis Standards of Housing; Homelessness Response Analysis * * *

Sec. 3. CRISIS STANDARDS OF HOUSING

On or before November 1, 2023, the Department for Children and Families shall develop and submit a plan to implement crisis standards for housing to the House Committees on Human Services and on General and Housing and to the Senate Committees on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs and on Health and Welfare. In developing the plan, the Department shall consult with stakeholders who specialize in homelessness prevention and mitigation, including those organizations who participated in developing the Vermont Roadmap to End Homelessness developed pursuant to 2016 Acts and Resolves No. 172, Sec. B.1102(a).

Sec. 4. HOMELESSNESS RESPONSE SYSTEMS ANALYSIS

(a) On or before September 1, 2023, the Agency of Human Services shall convene a working group, including individuals with lived experience of homelessness, local and statewide representatives of the Continuums of Care Program, and representatives of housing- and homelessness-related organizations, to review, develop, and provide recommendations on Vermont's homelessness response and prevention programs and governance system, including any success measures that incorporate recent and relevant assessments and statewide plans.

(b)(1) On or before March 1, 2024, the working group established pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall submit its findings and recommendations to the House Committees on Human Services and on General and Housing and to the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs to align with the federal goal to reduce homelessness by 25 percent by 2025, in accordance with the Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness, including strategies to:

(A) address racial and other disparities, as well as the multiplier effects of two or more concurrent risk factors, among people experiencing homelessness;

(B) justify State and local action through research of quantitative and qualitative data, including the perspectives of individuals who have or are currently experiencing homelessness;

(C) eliminate the silos between State and local governments and organizations; public, private, and philanthropic sectors; and individuals who have or are currently experiencing homelessness;

(D) increase the supply of and access to safe, affordable, and accessible housing and tailored supports for individuals at risk of or currently experiencing homelessness;

(E) improve response systems to meet the urgent crisis of homelessness, especially unsheltered homelessness; and

(F) reduce the risk of housing instability for households most likely to experience homelessness.

(2) On or before January 1, 2024, the working group shall submit an interim report on its work pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection to the House Committees on Human Services and on General and Housing and to the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs.

Sec. 5. EFFECTIVE DATES

This act shall take effect on passage, except that Sec. 2 (ADS appropriation) shall take effect on July 1, 2023.

(Committee Vote: 10-2-0)

Rep. Harrison of Chittenden, for the Committee on Appropriations, recommends the report of the Committee on Ways and Means be amended as follows:

By striking out Secs. 3 and 4 in their entireties and by renumbering Sec. 5 as Sec. 3.

(Committee Vote: 9-2-1)

H. 282

An act relating to the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact

Rep. Berbeco of Winooski, for the Committee on Health Care, recommends the bill be amended by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 26 V.S.A. chapter 55 is amended to read:

CHAPTER 55. PSYCHOLOGISTS

Subchapter 1. General Provisions

* * *

Subchapter 2. Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact

§ 3021. PSYCHOLOGY INTERJURISDICTIONAL COMPACT;

ADOPTION

Vermont hereby enacts and adopts the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact. The form, format, and text of the Compact have been conformed to the conventions of the Vermont Statutes Annotated. It is the intent of the General Assembly that this subchapter be interpreted as substantively the same as the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact that is enacted by other Compact party states.

§ 3022. PURPOSE

(a) Whereas, states license psychologists, in order to protect the public through verification of education, training, and experience and ensure accountability for professional practice; and

(b) Whereas, this Compact is intended to regulate the day to day practice of telepsychology, which is the provision of psychological services using telecommunication technologies, by psychologists across state boundaries in the performance of their psychological practice as assigned by an appropriate authority;

(c) Whereas, this Compact is intended to regulate the temporary in-person, face-to-face practice of psychology by psychologists across state boundaries for 30 days within a calendar year in the performance of their psychological practice as assigned by an appropriate authority;

(d) Whereas, this Compact is intended to authorize state psychology regulatory authorities to afford legal recognition, in a manner consistent with the terms of the Compact, to psychologists licensed in another state;

(e) Whereas, this Compact recognizes that states have a vested interest in protecting the public's health and safety through their licensing and regulation

of psychologists and that such state regulation will best protect public health and safety;

(f) Whereas, this Compact does not apply when a psychologist is licensed in both the Home and Receiving States; and

(g) Whereas, this Compact does not apply to permanent in-person, face-to-face practice, it does allow for authorization of temporary psychological practice.

(h) Consistent with these principles, this Compact is designed to achieve the following purposes and objectives:

(1) increase public access to professional psychological services by allowing for telepsychological practice across state lines as well as temporary in-person, face-to-face services into a state in which the psychologist is not licensed to practice psychology;

(2) enhance the states' ability to protect the public's health and safety, especially client and patient safety;

(3) encourage the cooperation of Compact states in the areas of psychology licensure and regulation;

(4) facilitate the exchange of information between Compact states regarding psychologist licensure, adverse actions, and disciplinary history;

(5) promote compliance with the laws governing psychological practice in each Compact state; and

(6) invest all Compact states with the authority to hold licensed psychologists accountable through the mutual recognition of Compact state licenses.

§ 3023. DEFINITIONS

As used in this subchapter:

(1) "Adverse action" means any action taken by a state psychology regulatory authority that finds a violation of a statute or regulation that is identified by the state psychology regulatory authority as discipline and is a matter of public record.

(2) "Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB)" means the recognized membership organization composed of state and provincial psychology regulatory authorities responsible for the licensure and registration of psychologists throughout the United States and Canada.

(3) “Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology” means a licensed psychologist’s authority to practice telepsychology, within the limits authorized under this Compact, in another Compact state.

(4) “Bylaws” means those bylaws established by the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact Commission pursuant to section 3031 of this title for its governance or for directing and controlling its actions and conduct.

(5) “Client or patient” means the recipient of psychological services, whether psychological services are delivered in the context of health care, corporate, supervision, consulting services, or a combination of these.

(6) “Commissioner” means the voting representative appointed by each state psychology regulatory authority pursuant to section 3031 of this title.

(7) “Compact state” means a state, the District of Columbia, or United States territory that has enacted this Compact legislation and that has not withdrawn pursuant to subsection 3024(c) of this title or been terminated pursuant to subsection 3023(b) of this title.

(8) “Coordinated licensure information system” or “coordinated database” means an integrated process for collecting, sorting, and sharing information on psychologists’ licensure and enforcement activities related to psychology licensure laws, which is administered by the recognized membership organization composed of state and provincial psychology regulatory authorities.

(9) “Confidentiality” means the principle that data or information is not made available or disclosed to unauthorized persons or processes, or both.

(10) “Day” means any part of a day in which psychological work is performed.

(11) “Distant State” means the Compact state where a psychologist is physically present, not through the use of the telecommunications technologies, to provide temporary in-person, face-to-face psychological services.

(12) “E.Passport” means a certificate issued by the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB) that promotes the standardization in the criteria of interjurisdictional telepsychology practice and facilitates the process for licensed psychologists to provide telepsychological services across state lines.

(13) “Executive Board” means a group of directors elected or appointed to act on behalf of, and within the powers granted to them by, the Commission.

(14) “Home State” means a Compact state where a psychologist is licensed to practice psychology. If the psychologist is licensed in more than one Compact state and is practicing under the authorization to practice interjurisdictional telepsychology, the Home State is the Compact state where the psychologist is physically present when the telepsychological services are delivered. If the psychologist is licensed in more than one Compact state and is practicing under the Temporary Authorization to Practice, the Home State is any Compact state where the psychologist is licensed.

(15) “Identity history summary” means a summary of information retained by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), or other designee with similar authority, in connection with arrests and, in some instances, federal employment, naturalization, or military service.

(16) “In-person, face-to-face” means interactions in which the psychologist and the client or patient are in the same physical space and does not include interactions that may occur through the use of telecommunication technologies.

(17) “Interjurisdictional Practice Certificate” or “IPC” means a certificate issued by the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB) that grants temporary authority to practice based on notification to the state psychology regulatory authority of intention to practice temporarily and verification of one’s qualifications for such practice.

(18) “License” means authorization by a state psychology authority to engage in the independent practice of psychology, which would be unlawful without the authorization.

(19) “Non-Compact state” means any state that is not at the time a Compact state.

(20) “Psychologist” means an individual licensed for the independent practice of psychology.

(21) “Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact Commission,” or “Commission,” means the national administration of which all Compact states are members.

(22) “Receiving State” means a Compact state where the client or patient is physically located when the telepsychological services are delivered.

(23) “Rule” means a written statement by the Psychology Interjurisdiction Compact Commission promulgated pursuant to section 3022 of this title that is of general applicability; implements, interprets, or prescribes a policy or provision of the Compact, or an organization, procedural, or practice requirement of the Commission and has the force and effect of

statutory law in a Compact state; and includes the amendment, repeal, or suspension of an existing rule.

(24) “Significant investigatory information” means:

(A) investigative information that a state psychology regulatory authority, after preliminary inquiry that includes notification and an opportunity to respond if required by state laws, has reason to believe, if proven true, would indicate more than a violation of state statute or ethics code that would be considered more substantial than minor infraction; or

(B) investigative information that indicates that the psychologist represents an immediate threat to public health and safety regardless of whether the psychologist has been notified or had an opportunity to respond, or both.

(25) “State” means a state, commonwealth, territory, or possession of the United States, or the District of Columbia.

(26) “State psychology regulatory authority” means the board, office, or other agency with the legislative mandate to license and regulate the practice of psychology.

(27) “Telepsychology” means the provision of psychological services using telecommunication technologies.

(28) “Temporary Authorization to Practice” means a licensed psychologist’s authority to conduct temporary in-person, face-to-face practice, within the limits authorized under this Compact, in another Compact state.

(29) “Temporary in-person, face-to-face practice” means a psychologist is physically present, not through the use of telecommunications technologies, in the Distant State to provide for the practice of psychology for 30 days within a calendar year and based on notification to the Distant State.

§ 3024. HOME STATE LICENSURE

(a) The Home State shall be a Compact state where a psychologist is licensed to practice psychology.

(b) A psychologist may hold one or more Compact state licenses at a time. If the psychologist is licensed in more than one Compact state, the Home State is the Compact state where the psychologist is physically present when the services are delivered as authorized by the Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology under the terms of this Compact.

(c) Any Compact state may require a psychologist not previously licensed in a Compact state to obtain and retain a license to be authorized to practice in

the Compact state under the circumstances not authorized by the Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology under the terms of this Compact.

(d) Any Compact state may require a psychologist to obtain and retain a license to be authorized to practice in a Compact state under circumstances not authorized by the Temporary Authorization to Practice under the terms of this Compact.

(e) A Home State's license authorizes a psychologist to practice in a Receiving State under the Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology only if the Compact state:

(1) currently requires the psychologist to hold an active E.Passport;

(2) has a mechanism in place for receiving and investigating complaints about licensed individuals;

(3) notifies the Commission, in compliance with the terms herein, of any adverse action or significant investigatory information regarding a licensed individual;

(4) requires an identity history summary of all applicants at initial licensure, including the use of the results of fingerprints or other biometric data checks compliant with the requirements of the FBI, or other designee with similar authority, no later than 10 years after activation of the Compact; and

(5) complies with the bylaws and rules of the Commission.

(f) A Home State's license grants Temporary Authorization to Practice to a psychologist in a Distant State only if the Compact state:

(1) currently requires the psychologist to hold an active IPC;

(2) has a mechanism in place for receiving and investigating complaints about licensed individuals;

(3) notifies the Commission, in compliance with the terms herein, of any adverse action or significant investigatory information regarding a licensed individual;

(4) requires an identity history summary of applicants at initial licensure, including the use of the results of fingerprints or other biometric data checks compliant with the requirements of the FBI, or other designee with similar authority, no later than 10 years after activation of the Compact; and

(5) complies with the bylaws and rules of the Commission.

§ 3025. COMPACT PRIVILEGE TO PRACTICE TELEPSYCHOLOGY

(a) Compact states shall recognize the right of a psychologist, licensed in a Compact state in conformance with section 3024 of this title, to practice telepsychology in other Compact states, called Receiving States, in which the psychologist is not licensed under the Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology as provided in the Compact.

(b) To exercise the Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology under the terms and provisions of this Compact, a psychologist licensed to practice in a Compact state must:

(1) hold a graduate degree in psychology from an institute of higher education that was, at the time the degree was awarded:

(A) regionally accredited by an accrediting body recognized by the U.S. Department of Education to grant graduate degrees, or authorized by Provincial Statute or Royal Charter to grant doctoral degrees; or

(B) a foreign college or university deemed to be equivalent to subdivision (A) of this subdivision (b)(1) by a foreign credential evaluation service that is a member of the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES) or by a recognized foreign credential evaluation service; and

(2) hold a graduate degree in psychology that meets the following criteria:

(A) The program, wherever it may administratively housed, must be clearly identified and labeled as a psychology program. Such a program must specify in pertinent institutional catalogues and brochures its intent to educate and train professional psychologists.

(B) The psychology program must stand as a recognizable, coherent, organizational entity within the institution.

(C) There must be a clear authority and primary responsibility for the core and specialty areas whether or not the program cuts across administrative lines.

(D) The program must consist of an integrated, organized sequence of study.

(E) There must be an identifiable psychology faculty sufficient in size and breadth to carry out its responsibilities.

(F) The designated director of the program must be a psychologist and a member of the core faculty.

(G) The program must have an identifiable body of students who are matriculated in that program for a degree.

(H) The program must include supervised practicum, internship, or field training appropriate to the practice of psychology.

(I) The curriculum shall encompass a minimum of three academic years of full-time graduate study for a doctoral degree and a minimum of one academic year of full-time graduate study for a master's degree.

(J) The program includes an acceptable residency as defined by the rules of the Commission.

(3) possess a current, full, and unrestricted license to practice psychology in a Home State that is a Compact state;

(4) have no history of adverse action that violate the rules of the Commission;

(5) have no criminal record history reported on an identity history summary that violates the rules of the Commission;

(6) possess a current, active E.Passport;

(7) provide attestations in regard to areas of intended practice, conformity with standards of practice, competence in telepsychology technology; criminal background; and knowledge and adherence to legal requirements in the Home and Receiving States, and provide a release of information to allow for primary source verification in a manner specified by the Commission; and

(8) meet other criteria as defined by the rules of the Commission.

(c) The Home State maintains authority over the license of any psychologist practicing into a Receiving State under the Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology.

(d) A psychologist practicing into a Receiving State under the Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology will be subject to the Receiving State's scope of practice. A Receiving State may, in accordance with the state's due process law, limit or revoke a psychologist's Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology in the Receiving State and may take any other necessary actions under the Receiving State's applicable law to protect the health and safety of the Receiving State's citizens. If a Receiving State takes action, the state shall promptly notify the Home State and the Commission.

(e) If a psychologist's license in any Home State, another Compact state, or any Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology in any Receiving State, is restricted, suspended, or otherwise limited, the E.Passport shall be revoked and therefore the psychologist shall not be eligible to practice telepsychology in a Compact state under the Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology.

§ 3026. COMPACT TEMPORARY AUTHORIZATION TO PRACTICE

(a) Compact states shall also recognize the right of a psychologist, licensed in a Compact state in conformance with section 3024 of this title, to practice temporarily in other Compact states, called Distant States, in which the psychologist is not licensed, as provided in the Compact.

(b) To exercise the Temporary Authorization to Practice under the terms and provisions of this Compact, a psychologist licensed to practice in a Compact state must:

(1) hold a graduate degree in psychology from an institute of higher education that was, at the time the degree was awarded:

(A) regionally accredited by an accrediting body recognized by the U.S. Department of Education to grant graduate degrees, or authorized by Provincial Statute or Royal Charter to grant doctoral degrees; or

(B) a foreign college or university deemed to be equivalent to subdivision (A) of this subdivision (b)(1) by a foreign credential evaluation service that is a member of the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES) or by a recognized foreign credential evaluation service; and

(2) hold a graduate degree in psychology that meets the following criteria:

(A) The program, wherever it may administratively housed, must be clearly identified and labeled as a psychology program. Such a program must specify in pertinent institutional catalogues and brochures its intent to educate and train professional psychologists.

(B) The psychology program must stand as a recognizable, coherent, organizational entity within the institution.

(C) There must be a clear authority and primary responsibility for the core and specialty areas whether or not the program cuts across administrative lines.

(D) The program must consist of an integrated, organized sequence of study.

(E) There must be an identifiable psychology faculty sufficient in size and breadth to carry out its responsibilities.

(F) The designated director of the program must be a psychologist and a member of the core faculty.

(G) The program must have an identifiable body of students who are matriculated in that program for a degree.

(H) The program must include supervised practicum, internship, or field training appropriate to the practice of psychology.

(I) The curriculum shall encompass a minimum of three academic years of full-time graduate study for a doctoral degree and a minimum of one academic year of full-time graduate study for a master's degree.

(J) The program includes an acceptable residency as defined by the rules of the Commission.

(3) possess a current, full, and unrestricted license to practice psychology in a Home State that is a Compact state;

(4) have no history of adverse action that violate the rules of the Commission;

(5) have no criminal record history that violates the rules of the Commission;

(6) possess a current, active IPC;

(7) provide attestations in regard to areas of intended practice and work experience and provide a release of information to allow for primary source verification in a manner specified by the Commission; and

(8) meet other criteria as defined by the rules of the Commission.

(c) A psychologist practicing into a Distant State under the Temporary Authorization to Practice shall practice within the scope of practice authorized by the Distant State.

(d) A psychologist practicing into a Distant State under the Temporary Authorization to Practice will be subject to the Distant State's authority and law. A Distant State may, in accordance with that state's due process law, limit or revoke a psychologist's Temporary Authorization to Practice in the Distant State and may take any other necessary actions under the Distant State's applicable law to protect the health and safety of the Distant State's citizens. If a Distant State takes action, the state shall promptly notify the Home State and the Commission.

(e) If a psychologist's license in any Home State, another Compact state, or any Temporary Authorization to Practice in any Distant State, is restricted, suspended, or otherwise limited, the IPC shall be revoked and therefore the psychologist shall not be eligible to practice in a Compact state under the Temporary Authorization to Practice.

§ 3027. CONDITIONS OF TELEPSYCHOLOGY PRACTICE IN A RECEIVING STATE

A psychologist may practice in a Receiving State under the Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology only in the performance of the scope of practice for psychology as assigned by an appropriate state psychology regulatory authority, as defined in the rules of the Commission, and under the following circumstances:

(1) the psychologist initiates a client or patient contact in a Home State via telecommunications technologies with a client or patient in a Receiving State; and

(2) other conditions regarding telepsychology as determined by rules promulgated by the Commission.

§ 3028. ADVERSE ACTIONS

(a) A Home State shall have the power to impose adverse action against a psychologist's license issued by the Home State. A Distant State shall have the power to take adverse action on a psychologist's Temporary Authorization to Practice within that Distant State.

(b) A Receiving State may take adverse action on a psychologist's Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology within that Receiving State. A Home State may take adverse action against a psychologist based on an adverse action taken by a Distant State regarding temporary in-person, face-to-face practice.

(c) If a Home State takes adverse action against a psychologist's license, that psychologist's Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology is terminated and the E.Passport is revoked. Furthermore, that psychologist's Temporary Authorization to Practice is terminated and the IPC is revoked.

(1) All Home State disciplinary orders that impose adverse action shall be reported to the Commission in accordance with the rules promulgated by the Commission. A Compact state shall report adverse actions in accordance with the rules of the Commission.

(2) In the event discipline is reported on a psychologist, the psychologist will not be eligible for telepsychology or temporary in-person, face-to-face practice in accordance with the rules of the Commission.

(3) Other actions may be imposed as determined by the rules promulgated by the Commission.

(d) A Home State's Psychology Regulatory Authority shall investigate and take appropriate action with respect to reported inappropriate conduct engaged in by a licensee that occurred in a Receiving State as it would if such conduct had occurred by a licensee within the Home State. In such cases, the Home State's law shall control in determining any adverse action against a psychologist's license.

(e) A Distant State's psychology regulatory authority shall investigate and take appropriate action with respect to reported inappropriate conduct engaged in by a psychologist practicing under the Temporary Authorization to Practice that occurred in that Distant State as it would if such conduct had occurred by a licensee within the Home State. In such cases, the Distant State's law shall control in determining any adverse action against a psychologist's Temporary Authorization to Practice.

(f) Nothing in this Compact shall override a Compact state's decision that a psychologist's participation in an alternative program may be used in lieu of adverse action and that such participation shall remain nonpublic if required by the Compact state's law. Compact states must require psychologists who enter any alternative programs to not provide telepsychology services under the Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology or provide temporary psychological services under the Temporary Authorization to Practice in any other Compact state during the term of the alternative program.

(g) No other judicial or administrative remedies shall be available to a psychologist in the event a Compact state imposes an adverse action pursuant to subsection (c) of this section.

§ 3029. ADDITIONAL AUTHORITIES INVESTED IN COMPACT

STATE'S PSYCHOLOGY REGULATORY AUTHORITY

(a) In addition to any other powers granted under state law, a Compact state's psychology regulatory authority shall have the authority under this Compact to:

(1) Issue subpoenas for both hearings and investigations, which require the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of evidence. Subpoenas issued by a Compact state's psychology regulatory authority for the attendance and testimony of witnesses, or the production of evidence from

another Compact state, shall be enforced in the latter state by any court of competent jurisdiction, according to that court's practice and procedure in considering subpoenas issued in its own proceedings. The issuing state psychology regulatory authority shall pay any witness fees, travel expenses, mileage, and other fees required by the service statutes of the state where the witnesses or evidence, or both, are located; and

(2) Issue cease and desist or injunctive relief orders, or both, to revoke a psychologist's Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology or the Temporary Authorization to Practice, or both.

(b) During the course of any investigation, a psychologist may not change the psychologist's Home State licensure. A Home state psychology regulatory authority is authorized to complete any pending investigations of a psychologist and to take any actions appropriate under its law. The Home State psychology regulatory authority shall promptly report the conclusions of such investigations to the Commission. Once an investigation has been completed, and pending the outcome of said investigation, the psychologist may change the psychologist's Home State licensure. The Commission shall promptly notify the new Home State of any such decisions as provided in the rules of the Commission. All information provided to the Commission or distributed by Compact states pursuant to the psychologist shall be confidential, filed under seal, and used for investigatory or disciplinary matters. The Commission may create additional rules for mandated or discretionary sharing of information by Compact states.

§ 3030. COORDINATED LICENSURE INFORMATION SYSTEM

(a) The Commission shall provide for the development and maintenance of a coordinated licensure information system and reporting system containing licensure and disciplinary action information on all psychologists to whom this Compact is applicable in all Compact states as defined by the rules of the Commission.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of state law to the contrary, a Compact state shall submit a uniform data set to the coordinated database on all licensees as required by the rules of the Commission, including:

- (1) identifying information;
- (2) licensure data;
- (3) significant investigatory information;
- (4) adverse actions against a psychologist's license;

(5) an indicator that a psychologist's Authority to Practice Interjurisdictional Telepsychology or Temporary Authorization to Practice, or both, is revoked;

(6) nonconfidential information related to alternative program participation information;

(7) any denial of application for licensure and the reasons for such denial; and

(8) other information that may facilitate the administration of this Compact, as determined by the rules of the Commission.

(c) The coordinated database administrator shall promptly notify all Compact states of any adverse action taken against, or significant investigative information on, any licensee in a Compact state.

(d) Compact states reporting information to the coordinated database may designate information that may not be shared with the public without the express permission of the Compact state reporting the information.

(e) Any information submitted to the coordinated database that is subsequently required to be expunged by the law of the Compact state reporting the information shall be removed from the coordinated database.

§ 3031. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PSYCHOLOGY INTERJURISDICTIONAL COMPACT COMMISSION

(a) The Compact states hereby create and establish a joint public agency known as the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact Commission.

(1) The Commission is a body politic and an instrumentality of the Compact states.

(2) Venue is proper and judicial proceedings by or against the Commission shall be brought solely and exclusively in a court of competent jurisdiction where the principal office of the Commission is located. The Commission may waive venue and jurisdictional defenses to the extent it adopts or consents to participate in alternative dispute resolution proceedings.

(3) Nothing in this Compact shall be construed to be a waiver of sovereign immunity.

(b) Membership, voting, and meetings.

(1) The Commission shall consist of one voting representative appointed by each Compact state who shall serve as that state's Commissioner. The state psychology regulatory authority shall appoint its delegate. This delegate shall

be empowered to act on behalf of the Compact state. This delegate shall be limited to:

(A) the Executive Director, Executive Secretary, or similar executive;

(B) a current member of the state psychology regulatory authority of a Compact state; or

(C) a designee empowered with the appropriate delegate authority to act on behalf of the Compact state.

(2) Any Commissioner may be removed or suspended from office as provided by the law of the state from which the Commissioner is appointed. Any vacancy occurring in the Commission shall be filled in accordance with the laws of the Compact state in which the vacancy exists.

(3) Each Commissioner shall be entitled to one vote with regard to the promulgation of rules and creation of bylaws and shall otherwise have an opportunity to participate in the business and affairs of the Commission. A Commissioner shall vote in person or by such other means as provided in the bylaws. The bylaws may provide for Commissioners' participation in meetings by telephone or other means of communication.

(4) The Commission shall meet at least once during each calendar year. Additional meetings shall be held as set forth in the bylaws.

(5) All meetings shall be open to the public, and public notice of meetings shall be given in the same manner as required under the rulemaking provisions in section 3032 of this title.

(6) The Commission may convene in a closed, nonpublic meeting if the Commission must discuss:

(A) noncompliance of a Compact state with its obligations under the Compact;

(B) employment, compensation, discipline, or other personnel matters, practices, or procedures related to specific employees; or other matters related to the Commission's internal personnel practices and procedures;

(C) current, threatened, or reasonably anticipated litigation against the Commission;

(D) negotiation of contracts for the purchase or sale of goods, services, or real estate;

(E) accusation against any person of a crime or formally censuring any person;

(F) disclosure of trade secrets or commercial or financial information that is privileged or confidential;

(G) disclosure of information of a personal nature where disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;

(H) disclosure of investigatory records compiled for law enforcement purposes;

(I) disclosure of information related to any investigatory reports prepared by or on behalf of or for use of the Commission or other committee charged with responsibility for investigation or determination of compliance issues pursuant to the Compact; or

(J) matters specifically exempted from disclosure by federal and state statute.

(7) If a meeting, or portion of a meeting, is closed pursuant to this provision, the Commission's legal counsel or designee shall certify that the meeting may be closed and shall reference each relevant exempting provision. The Commission shall keep minutes that fully and clearly describe all matters discussed in a meeting and shall provide a full and accurate summary of actions taken, of any person participating in the meeting, and the reasons therefor, including a description of the views expressed. All documents considered in connection with an action shall be identified in such minutes. All minutes and documents of a closed meeting shall remain under seal, subject to release only by a majority vote of the Commission or order of a court of competent jurisdiction.

(c) The Commission shall, by a majority vote of the Commissioners, prescribe bylaws or rules, or both, to govern its conduct as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes and exercise the powers of the Compact, including but not limited to:

(1) Establishing the fiscal year of the Commission;

(2) Providing reasonable standards and procedures:

(A) for the establishment and meetings of other committees; and

(B) governing any general or specific delegation of any authority or function of the Commission;

(3) Providing reasonable procedures for calling and conducting meetings of the Commission, ensuring reasonable advance notice of all meetings, and providing an opportunity for attendance of such meetings by interested parties, with enumerated exceptions designed to protect the public's interest, the privacy of individuals of such proceedings, and proprietary

information, including trade secrets. The Commission may meet in closed session only after a majority of the Commissioners vote to close a meeting to the public in whole or in part. As soon as practicable, the Commission must make public a copy of the vote to close the meeting revealing the vote of each Commissioner with no proxy votes allowed;

(4) Establishing the titles, duties and authority and reasonable procedures for the election of the officers of the Commission;

(5) Providing reasonable standards and procedures for the establishment of the personnel policies and programs of the Commission. Notwithstanding any civil service or other similar law of any Compact state, the bylaws shall exclusively govern the personnel policies and programs of the Commission;

(6) Promulgating a code of ethics to address permissible and prohibited activities of Commission members and employees;

(7) Providing a mechanism for concluding the operations of the Commission and the equitable disposition of any surplus funds that may exist after the termination of the Compact after the payment or reserving, or both, of all of its debts and obligations;

(8) The Commission shall publish its bylaws in a convenient form and file a copy thereof and a copy of any amendment thereto, with the appropriate agency or officer in each of the Compact states;

(9) The Commission shall maintain its financial records in accordance with the bylaws; and

(10) The Commission shall meet and take such actions as are consistent with the provisions of this Compact and the bylaws.

(d) The Commission shall have the following powers:

(1) The authority to promulgate uniform rules to facilitate and coordinate implementation and administration of this Compact. The rule shall have the force and effect of law and shall be binding in all Compact states;

(2) To bring and prosecute legal proceedings or actions in the name of the Commission, provided that the standing of any state psychology regulatory authority or other regulatory body responsible for psychology licensure to sue or be sued under applicable law shall not be affected;

(3) To purchase and maintain insurance and bonds;

(4) To borrow, accept, or contract for services of personnel, including, but not limited to, employees of a Compact state;

(5) To hire employees, elect or appoint officers, fix compensation, define duties, grant such individuals appropriate authority to carry out the purposes of the Compact, and to establish the Commission's personnel policies and programs relating to conflicts of interest, qualifications of personnel, and other related personnel matters;

(6) To accept any and all appropriate donations and grants of money, equipment, supplies, materials, and services, and to receive, utilize, and dispose of the same; provided that at all times the Commission shall strive to avoid any appearance of impropriety or of conflict of interest;

(7) To lease, purchase, accept appropriate gifts or donations of, or otherwise to own, hold, improve, or use any property, real, personal, or mixed; provided that at all times the Commission shall strive to avoid any appearance of impropriety;

(8) To sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, lease, exchange, abandon, or otherwise dispose of any property, real, personal, or mixed;

(9) To establish a budget and make expenditures;

(10) To borrow money;

(11) To appoint committees, including advisory committees composed of members, state regulators, state legislators or their representatives, and consumer representatives, and such other interested persons as may be designated in this Compact and the bylaws;

(12) To provide and receive information from, and to cooperate with, law enforcement agencies;

(13) To adopt and use an official seal; and

(14) To perform such other functions as may be necessary or appropriate to achieve the purposes of this Compact consistent with the state regulation of psychology licensure, temporary in-person, face-to-face practice, and telepsychology practice.

(e) The Executive Board. The elected officers shall serve as the Executive Board, which shall have the power to act on behalf of the Commission according to the terms of this Compact.

(1) The Executive Board shall be composed of six members:

(A) five voting members who are elected from the current membership of the Commission by the Commission; and

(B) one ex-officio, nonvoting member from the recognized membership organization composed of state and provincial psychology regulatory authorities.

(2) The ex-officio member must have served as staff or member on a state psychology regulatory authority and will be selected by its respective organization.

(3) The Commission may remove any member of the Executive Board as provided in bylaws.

(4) The Executive Board shall meet at least annually.

(5) The Executive Board shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

(A) recommend to the entire Commission changes to the rules or bylaws, changes to this Compact legislation, fees paid by Compact states such as annual dues, and any other applicable fees;

(B) ensure Compact administration services are appropriately provided, contractual or otherwise;

(C) prepare and recommend the budget;

(D) maintain financial records on behalf of the Commission;

(E) monitor Compact compliance of member states and provide compliance reports to the Commission;

(F) establish additional committees as necessary; and

(G) other duties as provided in rules or bylaws.

(f) Financing of the Commission.

(1) The Commission shall pay, or provide for the payment of, the reasonable expenses of its establishment, organization, and ongoing activities.

(2) The Commission may accept any and all appropriate revenue sources, donations, and grants of money, equipment, supplies, materials, and services.

(3) The Commission may levy on and collect an annual assessment from each Compact state or impose fees on other parties to cover the cost of the operations and activities of the Commission and its staff, which must be in a total amount sufficient to cover its annual budget as approved each year for which revenue is not provided by other sources. The aggregate annual assessment amount shall be allocated based upon a formula to be determined

by the Commission, which shall promulgate a rule binding upon all Compact states.

(4) The Commission shall not incur obligations of any kind prior to securing the funds adequate to meet the same; nor shall the Commission pledge the credit of any of the Compact states, except by and with the authority of the Compact state.

(5) The Commission shall keep accurate accounts of all receipts and disbursements. The receipts and disbursements of the Commission shall be subject to the audit and accounting procedures established under its bylaws. However, all receipts and disbursements of funds handled by the Commission shall be audited yearly by a certified or licensed public accountant and the report of the audit shall be included in and become part of the annual report of the Commission.

(g) Qualified immunity, defense, and indemnification.

(1) The members, officers, Executive Director, employees, and representatives of the Commission shall be immune from suit and liability, either personally or in their official capacity, for any claim for damage to or loss of property or personal injury or other civil liability caused by or arising out of any actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred, or that the person against whom the claim is made had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, provided that nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to protect any such person from suit or liability for any damage, loss, injury, or liability caused by the intentional or willful or wanton misconduct of that person.

(2) The Commission shall defend any member, officer, Executive Director, employee, or representative of the Commission in any civil action seeking to impose liability arising out of any actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred within the scope of Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, or that the person against whom the claim is made had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, provided that nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit that person from retaining the person's own counsel; and provided further, that the actual or alleged act, error, or omission did not result from that person's intentional or willful or wanton misconduct.

(3) The Commission shall indemnify and hold harmless any member, officer, Executive Director, employee, or representative of the Commission for the amount of any settlement or judgment obtained against that person arising out of any actual or alleged act, error, or omission that occurred within the

scope of Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, or that such person had a reasonable basis for believing occurred within the scope of Commission employment, duties, or responsibilities, provided that the actual or alleged act, error, or omission did not result from the intentional or willful or wanton misconduct of that person.

§ 3032. RULEMAKING

(a) The Commission shall exercise its rulemaking powers pursuant to the criteria set forth in this section and the rules adopted thereunder. Rules and amendments shall become binding as of the date specified in each rule or amendment.

(b) If a majority of the legislatures of the Compact states rejects a rule, by enactment of a statute or resolution in the same manner used to adopt the Compact, then such rule shall have no further force and effect in any Compact state.

(c) Rules or amendments to the rules shall be adopted at a regular or special meeting of the Commission.

(d) Prior to promulgation and adoption of a final rule or rules by the Commission, and at least 60 days in advance of the meeting at which the rule will be considered and voted upon, the Commission shall file a notice of proposed rulemaking:

(1) on the website of the Commission; and

(2) on the website of each Compact states' psychology regulatory authority or the publication in which each state would otherwise publish proposed rules.

(e) The notice of proposed rulemaking shall include:

(1) the proposed time, date, and location of the meeting in which the rule will be considered and voted upon;

(2) the text of the proposed rule or amendment and the reason for the proposed rule;

(3) a request for comments on the proposed rule from any interested person; and

(4) the manner in which interested persons may submit notice to the Commission of their intention to attend the public hearing and any written comments.

(f) Prior to adoption of a proposed rule, the Commission shall allow persons to submit written data, facts, opinions, and arguments, which shall be made available to the public.

(g) The Commission shall grant an opportunity for a public hearing before it adopts a rule or amendment if a hearing is requested by:

(1) at least 25 persons who submit comments independently of each other;

(2) a governmental subdivision or agency; or

(3) a duly appointed person in an association that has at least 25 members.

(h) If a hearing is held on the proposed rule or amendment, the Commission shall publish the place, time, and date of the scheduled public hearing.

(1) All persons wishing to be heard at the hearing shall notify the Executive Director of the Commission or other designated member in writing of their desire to appear and testify at the hearing not less than five business days before the scheduled date of the hearing.

(2) Hearings shall be conducted in a manner providing each person who wishes to comment a fair and reasonable opportunity to comment orally or in writing.

(3) No transcript of the hearing is required, unless a written request for a transcript is made, in which case the person requesting the transcript shall bear the cost of producing the transcript. A recording may be made in lieu of a transcript under the same terms and conditions as a transcript. This subdivision shall not preclude the Commission from making a transcript or recording of the hearing if it so chooses.

(4) Nothing in this section shall be construed as requiring a separate hearing on each rule. Rules may be grouped for the convenience of the Commission at hearings required by this section.

(i) Following the scheduled hearing date, or by the close of business on the scheduled hearing date if the hearing was not held, the Commission shall consider all written and oral comments received.

(j) The Commission shall, by majority vote of all members, take final action on the proposed rule and shall determine the effective date of the rule, if any, based on the rulemaking record and the full text of the rule.

(k) If no written notice of intent to attend the public hearing by interested parties is received, the Commission may proceed with promulgation of the proposed rule without a public hearing.

(l) Upon determination that an emergency exists, the Commission may consider and adopt an emergency rule without prior notice, opportunity for comment, or hearing, provided that the usual rulemaking procedures provided in the Compact and in this section shall be retroactively applied to the rule as soon as reasonably possible, in no event later than 90 days after the effective date of the rule. For the purposes of this provision, an emergency rule is one that must be adopted immediately in order to:

(1) meet an imminent threat to public health, safety, or welfare;

(2) prevent a loss of Commission or Compact state funds;

(3) meet a deadline for the promulgation of an administrative rule that is established by federal law or rule; or

(4) protect public health and safety.

(m) The Commission or an authorized committee of the Commission may direct revisions to a previously adopted rule or amendment for purposes of correcting typographical errors, errors in format, errors in consistency, or grammatical errors. Public notice of any revisions shall be posted on the website of the Commission. The revision shall be subject to challenge by any person for a period of 30 days after posting. The revision may be challenged only on grounds that the revision results in a material change to a rule. A challenge shall be made in writing and delivered to the Chair of the Commission prior to the end of the notice period. If no challenge is made, the revision will take effect without further action. If the revision is challenged, the revision may not take effect without the approval of the Commission.

§ 3023. OVERSIGHT, DISPUTE RESOLUTION, AND ENFORCEMENT

(a) Oversight.

(1) The executive, legislative, and judicial branches of state government in each Compact state shall enforce this Compact and take all actions necessary and appropriate to effectuate the Compact's purposes and intent. The provisions of this Compact and the rules promulgated hereunder shall have standing as statutory law.

(2) All courts shall take judicial notice of the Compact and the rules in any judicial or administrative proceeding in a Compact state pertaining to the subject matter of this Compact that may affect the powers, responsibilities, or actions of the Commission.

(3) The Commission shall be entitled to receive service of process in any such proceeding and shall have standing to intervene in such a proceeding for all purposes. Failure to provide service of process to the Commission shall render a judgment or order void as to the Commission, this Compact, or promulgated rules.

(b) Default, technical assistance, and termination.

(1) If the Commission determines that a Compact state has defaulted in the performance of its obligations or responsibilities under this Compact or the promulgated rules, the Commission shall:

(A) provide written notice to the defaulting state and other Compact states of the nature of the default, the proposed means of remedying the default, and any other action to be taken by the Commission; and

(B) provide remedial training and specific technical assistance regarding the default.

(2) If a state in default fails to remedy the default, the defaulting state may be terminated from the Compact upon an affirmative vote of a majority of the Compact states, and all rights, privileges, and benefits conferred by this Compact shall be terminated on the effective date of termination. A remedy of the default does not relieve the offending state of obligations or liabilities incurred during the period of default.

(3) Termination of membership in the Compact shall be imposed only after all other means of securing compliance have been exhausted. Notice of intent to suspend or terminate shall be submitted by the Commission to the governor, the majority and minority leaders of the defaulting state's legislature, and each of the Compact states.

(4) A Compact state that has been terminated is responsible for all assessments, obligations, and liabilities incurred through the effective date of termination, including obligations that extend beyond the effective date of termination.

(5) The Commission shall not bear any costs incurred by the state that is found to be in default or that has been terminated from the Compact, unless agreed upon in writing between the Commission and the defaulting state.

(6) The defaulting state may appeal the action of the Commission by petitioning the U.S. District Court for the State of Georgia or the federal district where the Compact has its principal offices. The prevailing member shall be awarded all costs of such litigation, including reasonable attorney's fees.

(c) Dispute resolution.

(1) Upon request by a Compact state, the Commission shall attempt to resolve disputes related to the Compact that arise among Compact states and between Compact and non-Compact states.

(2) The Commission shall promulgate a rule providing for both mediation and binding dispute resolution for disputes that arise before the commission.

(d) Enforcement.

(1) The Commission, in the reasonable exercise of its discretion, shall enforce the provisions and rules of this Compact.

(2) By majority vote, the Commission may initiate legal action in the U.S. District Court for the State of Georgia or the federal district where the Compact has its principal offices against a Compact state in default to enforce compliance with the provisions of the Compact and its promulgated rules and bylaws. The relief sought may include both injunctive relief and damages. In the event judicial enforcement is necessary, the prevailing member shall be awarded all costs of such litigation, including reasonable attorney's fees.

(3) The remedies herein shall not be the exclusive remedies of the Commission. The Commission may pursue any other remedies available under federal or state law.

§ 3024. DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PSYCHOLOGY

INTERJURISDICTIONAL COMPACT COMMISSION AND
ASSOCIATED RULES, WITHDRAWAL, AND AMENDMENTS

(a) The Compact shall come into effect on the date on which the Compact is enacted into law in the seventh Compact state. The provisions that become effective at that time shall be limited to the powers granted to the Commission relating to assembly and the promulgation of rules. Thereafter, the Commission shall meet and exercise rulemaking powers necessary to the implementation and administration of the Compact.

(b) Any state that joins the Compact subsequent to the Commission's initial adoption of the rules shall be subject to the rules as they exist on the date on which the Compact becomes law in that state. Any rule that has been previously adopted by the Commission shall have the full force and effect of law on the day the Compact becomes law in that state.

(c) Any Compact state may withdraw from this Compact by enacting a statute repealing the same.

(1) A Compact state's withdrawal shall not take effect until six months after enactment of the repealing statute.

(2) Withdrawal shall not affect the continuing requirement of the withdrawing state's psychology regulatory authority to comply with the investigative and adverse action reporting requirements of this act prior to the effective date of withdrawal.

(d) Nothing contained in this Compact shall be construed to invalidate or prevent any psychology licensure agreement or other cooperative arrangement between a Compact state and a non-Compact state that does not conflict with the provisions of this Compact.

(e) This Compact may be amended by the Compact states. No amendment to this Compact shall become effective and binding upon any Compact state until it is enacted into the law of all Compact states.

§ 3025. CONSTRUCTION AND SEVERABILITY

This Compact shall be liberally construed so as to effectuate the purposes thereof. If this Compact shall be held contrary to the constitution of any state member thereto, the Compact shall remain in full force and effect as to the remaining Compact states.

Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2023.

(Committee Vote: 9-0-1)

Rep. Andrews of Westford, for the Committee on Ways and Means, recommends the report of the Committee on Health Care be amended as follows:

By striking out Sec. 2, effective date, in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

* * * Secretary of State Fees * * *

* * * Advisor Professions * * *

Sec. 2. 3 V.S.A. § 125 is amended to read:

§ 125. FEES

(a) In addition to the fees otherwise authorized by law, a board or advisor profession may charge the following fees:

(1) Verification of license, \$20.00.

(2) An examination fee established by the Secretary, which shall be ~~no~~ not greater than the costs associated with examinations.

(3) Reinstatement fees for expired licenses pursuant to section 127 (unauthorized practice) of this title.

(4) Continuing, qualifying, or prelicensing education course approval:

(A) Provider, \$100.00.

(B) Individual, \$25.00.

(5) A preapplication criminal background determination, \$25.00.

(b) Unless otherwise provided by law, the following fees shall apply to all professions regulated by the Director in consultation with advisor appointees under Title 26:

(1) Application for registration, ~~\$75.00~~ \$100.00, except application for:

(A) Private investigator and security services employees, unarmed registrants, ~~\$60.00~~ \$70.00.

(B) Private investigator and security service employees, transitory permits, ~~\$60.00~~ \$70.00.

(C) Private investigator and security service employees, armed registrants, ~~\$120.00~~ \$140.00.

(2) Application for licensure or certification, ~~\$100.00~~ \$115.00, except application for:

(A) Barbering or cosmetology schools and shops, ~~\$300.00~~ \$355.00.

(B) Funeral directors, embalmers, disposition facility personnel, removal personnel, funeral establishments, disposition facilities, and limited services establishments, ~~\$70.00~~ \$85.00.

(C) Application for real estate appraisers, ~~\$275.00~~ \$315.00.

(D) Temporary real estate appraiser license, ~~\$150.00~~ \$175.00.

(E) Appraisal management company registration, ~~\$600.00~~ \$685.00.

(F) Private investigator or security services agency, ~~\$340.00~~ \$390.00.

(G) Private investigator and security services agency, ~~\$400.00~~ \$460.00.

(H) Private investigator or security services sole proprietor, \$250.00.

(I) Private investigator or security services unarmed licensee, ~~\$150.00~~ \$175.00.

(J) Private investigator or security services armed licensee, ~~\$200.00~~
\$230.00.

(K) Private investigator and security services instructor, ~~\$120.00~~
\$140.00.

(L) Barbers, cosmetologists, nail technicians, and estheticians,
\$120.00.

(M) Massage therapist, bodyworker, or touch professional, \$90.00.

(N) Optician, \$145.00.

(O) Physical therapists and assistants, \$120.00.

(P) Independent clinical social workers and master's social workers,
\$120.00.

(3) Optician trainee registration, ~~\$50.00~~ \$75.00.

(4) Biennial renewal, ~~\$240.00~~ \$275.00, except biennial renewal for:

(A) Independent clinical social workers and master's social workers,
~~\$150.00~~ \$180.00.

(B) Occupational therapists and assistants, ~~\$150.00~~ \$180.00.

(C) Physical therapists and assistants, ~~\$150.00~~ \$180.00.

(D) Optician trainees, ~~\$100.00~~ \$135.00.

(E) Barbers, cosmetologists, nail technicians, and estheticians,
~~\$130.00~~ \$155.00.

(F) Schools of barbering or cosmetology, ~~\$300.00~~ \$355.00.

(G) Funeral directors and embalmers, ~~\$280.00~~ \$415.00.

(H) Disposition facility personnel and removal personnel, ~~\$100.00~~
\$150.00.

(I) Funeral establishments, disposition facilities, and limited services
establishments, ~~\$640.00~~ \$945.00.

(J) [Repealed.]

(K) Radiologic therapist, radiologic technologist, nuclear medicine
technologist, ~~\$150.00~~ \$175.00.

(L) Certified alcohol and drug abuse counselor, certified apprentice
addiction professional, and licensed alcohol and drug abuse counselor, ~~\$225.00~~
\$260.00.

(M) Private investigator or security services agency, or both, ~~\$300.00~~ \$345.00.

(N) Private investigator or security services unarmed licensee, ~~\$120.00~~ \$140.00.

(O) Private investigator or security services armed licensee, ~~\$180.00~~ \$205.00.

(P) Private investigator or security services unarmed registrant, ~~\$80.00~~ \$95.00.

(Q) Private investigator or security services armed registrant, ~~\$130.00~~ \$150.00.

(R) Private investigator or security services sole proprietor, \$250.00.

(S) Private investigator or security services instructor, ~~\$180.00~~ \$205.00.

(T) Barbering or cosmetology shop, \$285.00.

(5) Limited temporary license or work permit, ~~\$50.00~~ \$60.00.

(6) Radiologic evaluation, \$125.00.

(7) Annual renewal for appraisal management company registration, ~~\$300.00~~ \$345.00.

(8) Real estate appraiser trainee, \$115.00.

* * *

* * * Boxing * * *

Sec. 3. 26 V.S.A. § 6009 is amended to read:

§ 6009. FEES

(a) Applicants and persons regulated by this subchapter shall be subject to the following fees:

(1) Promoter registration ~~\$500.00~~ \$825.00

(2) Boxer registration ~~\$25.00~~ \$30.00

(3) Manager registration ~~\$25.00~~ \$30.00

(4) Second registration ~~\$25.00~~ \$30.00

(5) Referee registration ~~\$25.00~~ \$30.00

(6) Judge registration ~~\$25.00~~ \$30.00

(7) Biennial renewal for ~~professional boxers,~~ managers, seconds, referees, and judges ~~\$25.00~~ \$30.00

(8) Biennial renewal for professional boxer \$35.00

(9) Biennial renewal for professional promotor \$45.00

* * *

* * * Mixed Martial Arts * * *

Sec. 4. 26 V.S.A. § 6033 is amended to read:

§ 6033. FEES

Applicants and persons regulated by this subchapter shall be subject to the following fees:

(1) Application:

(A) Promoter license ~~\$500.00~~ \$545.00

(B) Event license ~~\$250.00~~ \$275.00

(C) Contestant license ~~\$25.00~~ \$30.00

(D) Participant license ~~\$25.00~~ \$30.00

(2) ~~Biennial renewal for managers, seconds, referees, and judges \$25.00~~ \$30.00

(3) Biennial renewal for promoters ~~\$500.00~~ \$545.00

(4) Annual renewal for contestants ~~\$25.00~~ \$30.00

(5) Late fees set pursuant to 3 V.S.A. § 127(d)(1).

* * * Nursing Home Administrators * * *

Sec. 5. 18 V.S.A. § 2058 is amended to read:

§ 2058. LICENSE FEES

Applicants and persons regulated under this chapter shall be subject to the following fees:

(1) Application ~~\$100.00~~ \$115.00

(2) Biennial renewal ~~\$200.00~~ \$275.00

* * * Board Professions * * *

* * * Accounting * * *

Sec. 6. 26 V.S.A. § 56 is amended to read:

§ 56. FEES

Applicants and persons regulated under this chapter shall pay the following fees:

- (1) Application for license ~~\$100.00~~ \$115.00
- (2) Biennial renewal of license ~~\$220.00~~ \$255.00
- (3) Firm registration ~~\$200.00~~ \$230.00
- (4) [Repealed.]
- (5) Firm biennial renewal of registration ~~\$400.00~~ \$460.00
- (6) Sole proprietor firm biennial renewal of registration ~~\$200.00~~ \$230.00

* * * Allied Mental Health * * *

Sec. 7. 26 V.S.A. § 4089a is amended to read:

§ 4089a. FEES

A person who seeks entry on the roster shall pay the following fees:

- (1) Initial roster entry ~~\$80.00~~ \$95.00
- (2) Biennial roster reentry ~~\$150.00~~ \$175.00

Sec. 8. 26 V.S.A. § 4041a is amended to read:

§ 4041a. FEES

Applicants and persons regulated under this chapter shall pay the following fees:

- (1) Application for licensure ~~\$150.00~~ \$175.00
- (2) Biennial renewal ~~\$250.00~~ \$285.00

Sec. 9. 26 V.S.A. § 3270a is amended to read:

§ 3270a. FEES

Applicants and persons regulated under this chapter shall pay the following fees:

- (1) Application for licensure ~~\$150.00~~ \$175.00
- (2) Biennial renewal ~~\$200.00~~ \$230.00

* * * Architect * * *

Sec. 10. 26 V.S.A. § 209 is amended to read:

§ 209. FEES

Applicants and persons regulated under this chapter shall pay the following fees:

- (1) Application for initial license ~~\$60.00~~ \$120.00
- (2) ~~Initial license issuance~~ \$20.00
- (3) Biennial renewal ~~\$155.00~~ \$225.00

* * * Chiropractor * * *

Sec. 11. 26 V.S.A. § 535 is amended to read:

§ 535. FEES

Applicants and persons regulated under this chapter shall pay the following fees:

- (1) Chiropractors
 - (A) Application ~~\$200.00~~ \$225.00
 - (B) Biennial renewal ~~\$265.00~~ \$295.00
 - (C) Initial competency endorsement under section 525 of this title \$70.00
 - (D) Biennial renewal of competency endorsement under section 525 of this title \$70.00
 - (E) Evaluation \$125.00
- (2) Registration of intern ~~\$50.00~~ \$80.00

* * * Dental * * *

Sec. 12. 26 V.S.A. § 662 is amended to read:

§ 662. FEES

(a) Applicants and persons regulated under this chapter shall pay the following fees:

- (1) Application
 - (A) Dentist ~~\$250.00~~ \$285.00
 - (B) Dental therapist ~~\$185.00~~ \$215.00
 - (C) Dental hygienist ~~\$175.00~~ \$200.00
 - (D) Dental assistant ~~\$70.00~~ \$80.00
- (2) Biennial renewal

- (A) Dentist ~~\$575.00~~ \$655.00
- (B) Dental therapist ~~\$270.00~~ \$310.00
- (C) Dental hygienist ~~\$215.00~~ \$245.00
- (D) Dental assistant ~~\$90.00~~ \$105.00

* * *

* * * Engineer * * *

Sec. 13. 26 V.S.A. § 1176 is amended to read:

§ 1176. FEES

Applicants and persons regulated under this chapter shall pay the following fees:

- (1) Application for engineering license or application to add additional specialty discipline ~~\$100.00~~ \$115.00
- (2) Application for engineer intern certificate ~~\$50.00~~ \$60.00
- (3) Biennial license renewal ~~\$150.00~~ \$175.00
- (4) [Repealed.]

* * * Land Surveyor * * *

Sec. 14. 26 V.S.A. § 2597 is amended to read:

§ 2597. FEES

Applicants and persons regulated under this chapter shall pay the following fees:

- (1) Application ~~\$200.00~~ \$290.00
- (2) Biennial renewal of license ~~\$300.00~~ \$365.00

* * * Nursing * * *

Sec. 15. 26 V.S.A. § 1577 is amended to read:

§ 1577. FEES

Applicants and persons regulated under this chapter shall pay the following fees:

- (1) Nursing Assistants
 - (A) Application ~~\$20.00~~ \$25.00
 - (B) Biennial renewal ~~\$55.00~~ \$65.00

(2) Practical Nurses and Registered Nurses

(A) Application by exam \$75.00

(B) Application by endorsement ~~\$150.00~~ \$175.00

(C) Biennial renewal for Practical Nurses ~~\$175.00~~ \$200.00

(D) Biennial renewal for Registered Nurses ~~\$190.00~~ \$220.00

(3) Advanced Practice Registered Nurses

(A) Initial endorsement of advanced practice registered nurses ~~\$100.00~~
\$115.00

(B) Biennial renewal of advanced practice registered nurses ~~\$125.00~~
\$145.00

* * * Optometry * * *

Sec. 16. 26 V.S.A. § 1718 is amended to read:

§ 1718. FEES

Applicants and persons regulated under this chapter shall pay the following fees:

(1) Application ~~\$225.00~~ \$325.00

(2) Biennial renewal ~~\$350.00~~ \$395.00

* * * Osteo * * *

Sec. 17. 26 V.S.A. § 1794 is amended to read:

§ 1794. FEES

(a) Applicants and persons regulated under this chapter shall pay the following fees:

(1) Application

(A) Licensure ~~\$500.00~~ \$450.00

(B) Limited temporary license ~~\$50.00~~ \$75.00

(2) Biennial license renewal ~~\$300.00~~ \$350.00

(3) Annual limited temporary license renewal ~~\$100.00~~ \$145.00

* * *

* * * Pharmacy * * *

Sec. 18. 26 V.S.A. § 2046 is amended to read:

§ 2046. FEES

Applicants and persons regulated under this chapter shall pay the following fees:

(1) Initial application:

- (A) Pharmacists ~~\$110.00~~ \$155.00
- (B) Retail drug outlets ~~\$300.00~~ \$410.00
- (C) Institutional drug outlets ~~\$400.00~~ \$460.00
- (D) Manufacturing drug outlet ~~\$400.00~~ \$550.00
- (E) Wholesale drug outlet ~~\$700.00~~ \$800.00
- (F) Investigative and research projects ~~\$300.00~~ \$410.00
- (G) Pharmacy technicians ~~\$50.00~~ \$70.00
- (H) Outsourcing drug outlet ~~\$700.00~~ \$800.00
- (I) Nuclear drug outlet ~~\$700.00~~ \$800.00
- (J) Compounding drug outlet ~~\$700.00~~ \$800.00
- (K) Home infusion drug outlet ~~\$700.00~~ \$800.00
- (L) Third-party logistics ~~\$700.00~~ \$800.00
- (M) Pharmacy interns ~~\$20.00~~ \$25.00
- (N) Nonresident manufacturers ~~\$800.00~~ \$800.00
- (O) Community-based long-term care pharmacy \$550.00
- (P) Institutional long-term care pharmacy \$550.00

(2) Biennial renewal:

- (A) Pharmacists ~~\$125.00~~ \$145.00
- (B) Retail drug outlets ~~\$400.00~~ \$460.00
- (C) Institutional drug outlets ~~\$500.00~~ \$570.00
- (D) Manufacturing drug outlet ~~\$500.00~~ \$570.00
- (E) Wholesale drug outlet ~~\$500.00~~ \$570.00
- (F) Investigative and research projects ~~\$300.00~~ \$345.00
- (G) Pharmacy technicians ~~\$60.00~~ \$85.00
- (H) Outsourcing drug outlet ~~\$500.00~~ \$570.00

- (I) Nuclear drug outlet ~~\$500.00~~ \$570.00
 - (J) Compounding drug outlet ~~\$500.00~~ \$570.00
 - (K) Home infusion drug outlet ~~\$500.00~~ \$570.00
 - (L) Third-party logistics ~~\$500.00~~ \$570.00
 - (M) Pharmacy interns ~~\$45.00~~ \$55.00
 - (N) Nonresident manufacturers \$570.00
 - (O) Community-based long-term care pharmacy \$570.00
 - (P) Institutional long-term care pharmacy \$570.00
- (3) Pharmacy reinspection \$100.00

* * * Psychology * * *

Sec. 19. 26 V.S.A. § 3010 is amended to read:

§ 3010. FEES; LICENSES

Applicants and persons regulated under this chapter shall pay the following fees:

- (1) Application for license ~~\$175.00~~ \$240.00
- (2) Biennial renewal of license ~~\$150.00~~ \$195.00
- (3) [Repealed.]
- (4) [Repealed.]

* * * Real Estate * * *

Sec. 20. 26 V.S.A. § 2255 is amended to read:

§ 2255. FEES

(a) Applicants and persons regulated under this chapter shall pay the following fees:

* * *

- (2) Biennial renewal of broker or salesperson license ~~\$240.00~~ \$220.00

* * *

* * * Veterinary * * *

Sec. 21. 26 V.S.A. § 2414 is amended to read:

§ 2414. FEES

Applicants and persons regulated under this chapter shall pay the following fees:

(1) Application ~~\$100.00~~ \$145.00

(2) Biennial Renewal ~~\$175.00~~ \$200.00

* * * Corporations Division * * *

* * * Assumed Business Name * * *

Sec. 22. 11 V.S.A. § 1625 is amended to read:

§ 1625. FEES

(a) A person, copartnership, association, limited liability company, or corporation required by the provisions of this chapter to file a return, shall, at the time of filing as provided, pay a registration fee of ~~\$50.00~~ \$70.00 to the Secretary of State.

(b) A person, copartnership, association, limited liability company, or corporation required by the provisions of this chapter to file a certificate of cessation or change of business status or an application to reserve a business name shall, at the time of filing, pay a fee of ~~\$20.00~~ \$35.00 to the Secretary of State.

* * *

Sec. 23. 11 V.S.A. § 1635 is amended to read:

§ 1635. REREGISTRATION

(a) One or more persons doing business under a registered business name shall reregister the name every five years by filing a reregistration return with the Secretary of State with a fee of ~~\$40.00~~ \$65.00 within 60 days following the date five years after the date of the original registration or of the last reregistration. The Secretary of State shall prepare and supply the necessary forms.

* * *

* * * Corporation * * *

Sec. 24. 11A V.S.A. § 1.22 is amended to read:

§ 1.22. FILING; SERVICE AND COPYING FEES

(a) The Secretary of State shall collect the following fees when the documents described in this section are delivered to the Office of the Secretary of State for filing:

(1) Articles of incorporation	\$125.00 <u>\$155.00</u>
(2) Application for reserved name	20.00 <u>\$40.00</u>
(3) Notice of transfer of reserved name	No fee <u>\$20.00</u>
(4) Application for registered name of a foreign corporation	25.00 <u>\$50.00</u>
(5) Application for renewal of registered name of a foreign corporation	\$25.00 <u>\$50.00</u>
(6) Statement of change of registered agents or registered office, or both	\$25.00 and not to exceed \$1,000.00 per filer per calendar year.
(7) Agent's statement of resignation	No fee
(8) Amendment of articles of incorporation	\$25.00 <u>\$50.00</u>
(9) Restatement of articles of incorporation	\$25.00 <u>\$50.00</u>
(10) Articles of merger or share exchange	\$50.00 <u>\$95.00</u>
(11) Articles of dissolution	\$20.00 <u>\$35.00</u>
(12) Articles of revocation of dissolution	\$20.00 <u>\$35.00</u>
(13) Application for certificate of authority	\$125.00 <u>\$155.00</u>

(14) Application for amended certificate of authority	\$25.00 <u>\$50.00</u>
(15) Application for certificate of withdrawal	\$20.00 <u>\$25.00</u>
(16) Annual report of a foreign corporation	\$200.00 <u>\$250.00</u>
(17) Annual report of a domestic corporation	\$45.00 <u>\$60.00</u>
(18) Application for certificate of good standing	\$25.00
(19) Any other document required or permitted to be filed by this title	\$20.00 <u>\$35.00</u>
<u>(20) Articles of correction</u>	<u>\$20.00</u>
<u>(21) Articles of domestication</u>	<u>\$20.00</u>
<u>(22) Statement of conversion</u>	<u>\$20.00</u>

* * *

(d) When a corporation has been involuntarily terminated for failure to file its annual report, the Secretary of State shall collect, for each year the corporation failed to file its annual report, the annual report filing fee and a reinstatement fee of ~~\$25.00~~ \$50.00.

* * * Limited Liability Company * * *

Sec. 25. 11 V.S.A. § 4012 is amended to read:

§ 4012. FEES

(a) The Secretary of State shall collect the following fees when a document described in this section is delivered to the Office of the Secretary of State for filing:

- (1) Articles of organization ~~\$125.00~~ \$155.00
- (2) Application for certificate of authority ~~\$125.00~~ \$155.00
- (3) Amendment of articles or certificate of authority ~~\$25.00~~ \$35.00
- (4) Cancellation of certificate of authority ~~\$20.00~~ \$25.00
- (5) Application for reserved name ~~\$20.00~~ \$25.00
- (6) Notice of transfer of reserved name ~~No fee~~ \$20.00

- (7) Application for registered name \$25.00
- (8) Application for renewal of registered name \$25.00
- (9) Statement of change of designated agent or designated office, or both ~~\$25.00~~ \$35.00 and not to exceed \$1,000.00 per filer per calendar year
- (10) Agent's statement of resignation no fee
- (11) Restatement of articles of organization \$25.00
- (12) Articles of correction ~~\$25.00~~ \$35.00
- (13) Application for certificate of existence or authorization ~~\$25.00~~ \$35.00
- (14) Articles of merger ~~\$50.00~~ \$55.00
- (15) Annual report of a domestic limited liability company ~~\$35.00~~ \$45.00
- (16) Annual report of a foreign limited liability company ~~\$140.00~~ \$170.00
- (17) Reinstatement ~~\$25.00~~ \$35.00
- (18) Any other document required or permitted to be filed by this chapter \$20.00
- (19) Articles of domestication \$20.00
- (20) Articles of termination \$20.00
- (21) Notice of withdrawal of reserved name \$20.00
- (22) Statement of conversion \$20.00

(b) The Secretary of State shall collect the following fees:

(1) ~~\$25.00~~ \$35.00 each time process is served on the Secretary under this chapter. The party to a proceeding causing service of process is entitled to recover this fee as costs if ~~he or she~~ the party prevails in the proceeding.

(2) \$25.00 for the certificate certifying the copy of any filed document relating to a limited liability company or a foreign limited liability company.

* * * Limited Liability Partnership * * *

Sec. 26. 11 V.S.A. § 3310 is amended to read:

§ 3310. FEES

(a) The Secretary of State shall collect the following fees when a document described in this section is delivered to the Office of the Secretary of State for filing:

(1) Statement of authority	\$125.00 <u>\$155.00</u>
(2) Statement of denial	No fee <u>\$25.00</u>
(3) Statement of dissociation	No —fee <u>\$20.00</u>
(4) Statement of dissolution	No fee <u>\$25.00</u>
(5) Statement of merger	\$50.00 <u>\$85.00</u>
(6) Statement of qualification	\$75.00 <u>\$130.00</u>
(7) Statement of foreign qualification	\$100.00 <u>\$170.00</u>
(8) Amendment	\$25.00 <u>\$45.00</u>
(9) Cancellation	\$5.00 <u>\$10.00</u>
(10) Annual report of domestic limited liability partnership	\$15.00 <u>\$30.00</u>
(11) Annual report of foreign limited liability partnership	\$100.00 <u>\$170.00</u>
(12) Reinstatement	\$25.00 <u>\$45.00</u>
(13) Statement of change of designated agent or designated office, or both	\$25.00 <u>\$35.00,</u> not to exceed \$1,000.00

	per filer
	per
	calendar
	year
(14) Application for certificate of good standing	\$25.00 <u>\$45.00</u>
(15) Any other document permitted or required to be filed by this chapter	\$20.00
(16) <u>Amendment – Foreign</u>	<u>\$35.00</u>

* * *

* * * Limited Partnership * * *

Sec. 27. 11 V.S.A. § 3420 is amended to read:

§ 3420. FEES

(a) The Secretary of State shall collect the following fees when a document described in this section is delivered to the Office of the Secretary of State for filing:

(1) Certificate of Limited Partnership	\$125.00 <u>\$130.00</u>
(2) Registration of Foreign Limited Partnership	\$125.00 <u>\$155.00</u>
(3) Amendment - <u>Domestic</u>	\$25.00 <u>\$35.00</u>
(4) Cancellation	No fee <u>\$25.00</u>
(5) Merger	\$50.00 <u>\$65.00</u>
(6) Statement of change of designated agent or designated office, or both	\$25.00 <u>\$35.00,</u> not to exceed \$1,000.00

	per filer
	per calen-
	dar year
(7) Application for certificate of good standing	\$25.00 <u>\$35.00</u>
(8) Any other document permitted or required to be filed by this chapter	\$20.00
(9) <u>Amendment – Foreign</u>	<u>\$35.00</u>
(10) <u>Name reservation, application</u>	<u>\$20.00</u>
(11) <u>Name reservation, transfer</u>	<u>\$20.00</u>
(12) <u>Restated certificate of limited partnership</u>	<u>\$20.00</u>

* * *

* * * Nonprofit Corporations * * *

Sec. 28. 11B V.S.A. § 1.22 is amended to read:

§ 1.22. FILING; SERVICE AND COPYING FEES

The Secretary of State shall collect the following fees when the documents described in this section are delivered to the Office of the Secretary of State for filing:

(1) Articles of incorporation	\$125.00 <u>\$155.00</u>
(2) Application for reserved name	\$20.00 <u>\$35.00</u>
(3) Transfer of reserved name	No fee <u>\$35.00</u>
(4) Application for registered name	\$25.00 <u>\$45.00</u>
(5) Renewal of registered name	\$25.00 <u>\$45.00</u>
(6) Statement of change of registered agents or registered office, or both	\$25.00 <u>\$35.00</u>

	and
	not to
	exceed
	\$1,000.00
	per filer
	per calen-
	dar
	year.
(7) Agent's statement of registration	No fee
(8) Amendment of articles of association	\$25.00 <u>\$45.00</u>
(9) Restatement of articles of association	\$25.00 <u>\$45.00</u>
(10) Articles of merger	\$50.00 <u>\$90.00</u>
(11) Articles of dissolution	No fee
(12) Articles of revocation of dissolution	\$5.00 <u>\$10.00</u>
(13) Application for reinstatement following administrative dissolution	\$25.00 <u>\$45.00</u>
(14) Application for certificate of authority for a foreign corporation	\$100.00 <u>\$175.00</u>
(15) Application for amended certificate of authority	\$25.00 <u>\$45.00</u>
(16) Application for certificate of withdrawal	\$5.00 <u>\$10.00</u>
(17) Biennial report	\$20.00 <u>\$35.00</u>

except that a corporation which ~~that~~ certifies to the Secretary of State, on a form approved by the Secretary, that it did not compensate its officers,

directors, or employees during the prior calendar year shall be exempt from the fee required by this subdivision.

(18) Articles of correction	\$15.00
	<u>\$30.00</u>
(19) Application for certificate of good standing	\$25.00
	<u>\$35.00</u>
(20) Certified copy of any filed document	\$25.00
(21) <u>Restatement of articles of organization</u>	<u>\$30.00</u>

Sec. 29. 12 V.S.A. § 852 is amended to read:

§ 852. FEES; MAILING OF COPY TO CORPORATION

When process is served on the Secretary of State under the provisions of section 851 of this title, there shall be paid to ~~him or her~~ the Secretary by the officer at the time of such service the sum of ~~\$5.00~~ \$35.00. The Secretary shall forthwith forward by mail prepaid one of the duplicate copies to the corporation at its home office or to a person whom it designates.

* * * Trademark * * *

Sec. 30. 9 V.S.A. § 2523 is amended to read:

§ 2523. CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION; FILING FEE

There shall be paid to the Secretary of State for the filing of such statement a fee of ~~\$20.00~~ \$35.00. The Secretary of State shall deliver to the person filing such statement or causing the same to be filed, a certificate of registration under ~~his or her~~ the Secretary's signature and State Seal, showing the name and address of the person claiming ownership of the trademark registered, the date of such filing, a general description of the trademark to be registered, and a receipt showing the payment of the filing fee therefore. The fee for renewal of any registration shall be ~~\$20.00~~ \$35.00.

Sec. 31. 9 V.S.A. § 2525 is amended to read:

§ 2525. ASSIGNMENTS

Title to any trademark and its registration hereunder may be transferred and assigned to any person together with the goodwill of the business to which such trademark pertains or with that part of the goodwill of the business connected with the use of and symbolized by the mark. Written assignments shall be recorded by the Secretary of State upon payment of the fee of ~~\$20.00~~ \$35.00. When such assignment is recorded, a new certificate of registration shall be issued in the name of the assignee.

* * * Uniform Commercial Code * * *

Sec. 32. 9A V.S.A. § 9-525 is amended to read:

§ 9—525. FEES

(a) The fee for filing and indexing a record under this article is ~~\$35.00~~ \$45.00.

(b) ~~The fee for filing and indexing an initial financing statement of the kind described in subsection 9—502(c) of this title is \$6.00 per page. In addition to the fee provided in subsection (a) of this section:~~

(1) the fee for filing and indexing an initial financing statement of the kind described in subsection 9-502(c) of this title is \$25.00;

(2) the fee for filing and indexing a record under this article for a manufactured home, transmitting utility, or public finance transaction is \$25.00.

(c) The fee for responding to a request for information from the filing office, including for issuing a certificate showing whether there is on file any financing statement naming a particular debtor is ~~\$25.00~~ \$35.00.

~~(d) This section does not require a fee with respect to a record of a mortgage which is effective as a financing statement filed as a fixture filing or as a financing statement covering as-extracted collateral or timber to be cut under subsection 9—502(c) of this title. However, the recording and satisfaction fees that otherwise would be applicable to the record of the mortgage apply. [Repealed.]~~

* * * Effective Date * * *

Sec. 33. EFFECTIVE DATE

(a) Sec. 1 of this act shall take effect on January 1, 2024.

(b) The remaining sections shall take effect on passage.

(Committee Vote: 8-3-1)

Rep. Toleno of Brattleboro, for the Committee on Appropriations, recommends the bill ought to pass when amended as recommended by the Committee on Health Care, and when further amended as recommended by the Committee on Ways and Means.

(Committee Vote: 8-3-1)

H. 479

An act relating to the Transportation Program and miscellaneous changes to laws related to transportation

(Rep. Coffey of Guilford will speak for the Committee on Transportation.)

Rep. Demrow of Corinth, for the Committee on Ways and Means, recommends the bill ought to pass when amended as follows:

By striking out Secs. 35, Agency of Transportation positions, and 36, effective dates, and their reader assistance headings in their entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

* * * Fees * * *

* * * Enhanced Driver's License * * *

Sec. 35. 23 V.S.A. § 7 is amended to read:

§ 7. ENHANCED DRIVER'S LICENSE; MAINTENANCE OF DATABASE INFORMATION; FEE

* * *

(d) The fee for an enhanced license shall be ~~\$30.00~~ \$36.00 in addition to the fees otherwise established by this title.

* * *

* * * Department of Motor Vehicles * * *

Sec. 36. 23 V.S.A. § 114 is amended to read:

§ 114. FEES

(a) The Commissioner shall be paid the following fees for miscellaneous transactions:

(1) Listings of 1 through 4 registrations \$8.00
\$10.00

(2) Certified copy of registration application \$8.00
\$10.00

(3) Sample plates \$18.00
\$22.00

(4) Lists of registered dealers, transporters, periodic inspection stations, fuel dealers, and distributors, including gallonage sold or delivered and rental vehicle companies \$8.00 \$10.00 per page

(5) [Repealed.]			
(6) Periodic inspection sticker record		\$8.00	
<u>\$10.00</u>			
(7) Certified copy individual crash report		\$12.00	
<u>\$15.00</u>			
(8) Certified copy police crash report		\$18.00	
<u>\$22.00</u>			
(9) Certified copy suspension notice		\$8.00	
<u>\$10.00</u>			
(10) Certified copy mail receipt		\$8.00	
<u>\$10.00</u>			
(11) Certified copy proof of mailing		\$8.00	
<u>\$10.00</u>			
(12) Certified copy reinstatement notice		\$8.00	
<u>\$10.00</u>			
(13) Certified copy operator's license application		\$8.00	
<u>\$10.00</u>			
(14) Certified copy three-year operating record		\$14.00	
<u>\$17.00</u>			
(15) [Repealed.]			
(16) Government official photo identification card		\$6.00	
<u>\$8.00</u>			
(17) Listing of operator's licenses of 1 through 4		\$8.00	
<u>\$10.00</u>			
(18) Statistics and research	\$42.00	<u>\$51.00</u>	per
hour			
(19) Insurance information on crash		\$8.00	
<u>\$10.00</u>			
(20) Certified copy complete operating record		\$20.00	
<u>\$24.00</u>			
(21) Records not otherwise specified	\$8.00	<u>\$10.00</u>	per
page			
(22) Public records request for Department records requiring custom computer programming	\$100.00 per hour, but not less than \$500.00		

(23) Public records request for Department records requiring custom computer programming (updated) ~~\$119.00~~
\$143.00

* * *

Sec. 37. 23 V.S.A. § 115 is amended to read:

§ 115. NONDRIVER IDENTIFICATION CARDS

(a) Any Vermont resident may make application to the Commissioner and be issued an identification card that is attested by the Commissioner as to true name, correct age, residential address unless the listing of another address is requested by the applicant or is otherwise authorized by law, and any other identifying data as the Commissioner may require that shall include, in the case of minor applicants, the written consent of the applicant's parent, guardian, or other person standing in loco parentis. Every application for an identification card shall be signed by the applicant and shall contain such evidence of age and identity as the Commissioner may require, consistent with subsection (l) of this section. New and renewal application forms shall include a space for the applicant to request that a "veteran" designation be placed on the applicant's identification card. If a veteran, as defined in 38 U.S.C. § 101(2), requests a veteran designation and provides a Department of Defense Form 214 or other proof of veteran status specified by the Commissioner, and the Office of Veterans Affairs confirms the veteran's status as an honorably discharged veteran or a veteran discharged under honorable conditions, the identification card shall include the term "veteran" on its face. The Commissioner shall require payment of a fee of ~~\$24.00~~ \$29.00 at the time application for an identification card is made, except that an initial nondriver identification card shall be issued at no charge to an individual who surrenders ~~his or her~~ the individual's license in connection with a suspension or revocation under subsection 636(b) of this title due to a physical or mental condition.

(b) Every identification card shall expire, unless earlier canceled, at 12:00 midnight on the eve of the fourth anniversary of the date of birth of the cardholder following the date of original issue, and may be renewed every four years upon payment of a ~~\$24.00~~ \$29.00 fee. A renewed identification card shall expire, unless earlier canceled, at 12:00 midnight on the eve of the fourth anniversary of the date of birth of the cardholder following the expiration of the card being renewed. At least 30 days before an identification card will expire, the Commissioner shall mail first-class to the cardholder or send the cardholder electronically an application to renew the identification card; a cardholder shall be sent the renewal notice by mail unless the cardholder opts

in to receive electronic notification. An individual born on February 29 shall, for the purposes of this section, be considered as born on March 1.

(c) In the event an identification card is lost, destroyed, mutilated, or a new name is acquired, a replacement may be obtained upon furnishing satisfactory proof to the Commissioner and paying a ~~\$20.00~~ \$24.00 fee.

* * *

* * * Registration; General Provisions * * *

Sec. 38. 23 V.S.A. § 304 is amended to read:

§ 304. REGISTRATION CERTIFICATES; NUMBER PLATES; VANITY
AND OTHER SPECIAL PLATES

* * *

(b) The authority to issue vanity motor vehicle number plates or special number plates for safety organizations and service organizations shall reside with the Commissioner. Determination of compliance with the criteria contained in this section shall be within the discretion of the Commissioner. Series of number plates for safety and service organizations that are authorized by the Commissioner shall be issued in order of approval, subject to the operating considerations in the Department as determined by the Commissioner. The Commissioner shall issue vanity and special organization number plates in the following manner:

(1) Vanity plates. Subject to the restrictions of this section, vanity plates shall be issued at the request of the registrant of a motor vehicle unless the vehicle is registered under the International Registration Plan, upon application and upon payment of an annual fee of ~~\$48.00~~ \$58.00 in addition to the annual fee for registration. The Commissioner shall not issue two sets of plates bearing the same initials or letters unless the plates also contain a distinguishing number. Vanity plates are subject to reassignment if not renewed within 60 days of expiration of the registration.

(2) Special organization plates.

* * *

(B) The officer of a safety organization or service organization may apply to the Commissioner to approve special plates indicating membership in a qualifying organization to be issued to organization members for a ~~\$17.00~~ \$21.00 special fee for each set of plates in addition to the annual fee for registration. The application shall include designation of an officer or member to serve as the principal contact with the Department and a distinctive name or

emblem, or both, for use on the proposed special plate. The name and emblem shall not be objectively obscene or confusing to the general public and shall not promote, advertise, or endorse a product, brand, or service provided for sale. The organization's name and emblem must not infringe on or violate a trademark, trade name, service mark, copyright, or other proprietary or property right, and the organization must have the right to use the name and emblem. After consulting with the principal contact, the Commissioner shall determine the design of the special plate on the basis that the primary purpose of motor vehicle number plates is vehicle identification. An organization may have only one design, regardless of the number of individual organizational units, squads, or departments within the State that may conduct the same or substantially similar activities.

(C) After the plate design is finalized and an officer or the principal contact provides the Commissioner a written statement authorizing issuance of the plates, the organization shall deposit ~~\$2,200.00~~ \$2,600.00 with the Commissioner. Of this deposit, \$500.00 shall be retained by the Department to recover costs of developing the organization plate. Notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 502, the Commissioner may charge the actual costs of production of the plates against the fees collected and the balance shall be deposited in the Transportation Fund. Upon application, special plates shall be issued to a registrant of a vehicle registered at the pleasure car rate or of a truck registered for less than 26,001 pounds (but excluding trucks registered under the International Registration Plan) who furnishes the Commissioner satisfactory proof that ~~he or she~~ the registrant is a member of an organization that has satisfied the requirements of this subdivision (b)(2). For each of the first 100 applicants to whom sets of plates are issued, the ~~\$17.00~~ \$21.00 special plate fee shall not be collected and shall be subtracted from the balance of the deposit. When the ~~\$1,700.00~~ \$2,100.00 balance of the deposit is depleted, applicants shall be required to pay the ~~\$17.00~~ \$21.00 fee as provided for in subdivision (2)(B) of this subsection. No organization shall charge its members any additional fee or premium charge for the authorization, right, or privilege to display special number plates, but any organization may recover up to ~~\$1,700.00~~ \$2,100.00 from applicants for the special plates.

* * *

(f) Upon the request of a registrant of a motor vehicle with the previous issue number plates, the Commissioner shall issue current issue number plates bearing the same number as shown on the previous issue plates that are being replaced. The initial one-time fee for the plates shall be ~~\$24.00~~ \$29.00 in addition to the regular registration fee. Official plates and plates with numbers of 9999 or lower are specifically exempted.

* * *

Sec. 39. 23 V.S.A. § 304b is amended to read:

§ 304b. CONSERVATION MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION PLATES

(a) The Commissioner shall, upon application, issue conservation registration plates for use only on vehicles registered at the pleasure car rate, on trucks registered for less than 26,001 pounds, and on vehicles registered to State agencies under section 376 of this title, but excluding vehicles registered under the International Registration Plan. Plates so acquired shall be mounted on the front and rear of the vehicle. The Commissioners of Motor Vehicles and of Fish and Wildlife shall determine the graphic design of the special plates in a manner that serves to enhance the public awareness of the State's interest in restoring and protecting its wildlife and major watershed areas. The Commissioners of Motor Vehicles and of Fish and Wildlife may alter the graphic design of these special plates, provided that plates in use at the time of a design alteration shall remain valid subject to the operator's payment of the annual registration fee. Applicants shall apply on forms prescribed by the Commissioner and shall pay an initial fee of ~~\$26.00~~ \$32.00 in addition to the annual fee for registration. In following years, in addition to the annual registration fee, the holder of a conservation plate shall pay a renewal fee of ~~\$26.00~~ \$32.00. The Commissioner may adopt rules under 3 V.S.A. chapter 25 to implement the provisions of this subsection.

* * *

Sec. 40. 23 V.S.A. § 304c is amended to read:

§ 304c. MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION PLATES: BUILDING

BRIGHT SPACES FOR BRIGHT FUTURES FUND

(a) The Commissioner shall, upon application, issue "Building Bright Spaces for Bright Futures Fund," referred to as "the Bright Futures Fund," registration plates for use only on vehicles registered at the pleasure car rate, on trucks registered for less than 26,001 pounds, on vehicles registered to State agencies under section 376 of this title, and excluding vehicles registered under the International Registration Plan. Plates so acquired shall be mounted on the front and rear of the vehicle. The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall utilize the graphic design recommended by the Commissioner for Children and Families for the special plates to enhance the public awareness of the State's interest in supporting children's services. Applicants shall apply on forms prescribed by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles and shall pay an initial fee of ~~\$24.00~~ \$29.00 in addition to the annual fee for registration. In following years, in addition to the annual registration fee, the holder of a

Bright Futures Fund plate shall pay a renewal fee of ~~\$24.00~~ \$29.00. The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall adopt rules under 3 V.S.A. chapter 25 to implement the provisions of this subsection.

* * *

Sec. 41. 23 V.S.A. § 307 is amended to read:

§ 307. CARRYING OF REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE; REPLACEMENT
AND CORRECTED CERTIFICATES

* * *

(b) In case of the loss, mutilation, or destruction of a certificate, the owner of the vehicle described in it shall forthwith notify the Commissioner and remit a fee of ~~\$16.00~~ \$20.00, upon receipt of which the Commissioner shall furnish the owner with a duplicate certificate.

(c) A corrected registration certificate shall be furnished by the Commissioner upon request and receipt of a fee of ~~\$16.00~~ \$20.00.

(d) An operator cited for violating subsection (a) of this section with respect to a pleasure car, motorcycle, or truck that could be registered for less than 26,001 pounds shall be subject to a civil penalty of not more than \$5.00, which penalty shall be exempt from surcharges under 13 V.S.A. § 7282(a), if ~~he or she~~ the operator is cited within the 14 days following the expiration of the motor vehicle's registration.

Sec. 42. 23 V.S.A. § 323 is amended to read:

§ 323. TRANSFER FEES

A person who transfers the ownership of a registered motor vehicle to another, upon the filing of a new application and upon the payment of a fee of ~~\$25.00~~ \$30.00, may have registered in ~~his or her~~ the person's name another motor vehicle for the remainder of the registration period without payment of any additional registration fee, provided the proper registration fee of the motor vehicle sought to be registered is the same as the registration fee of the transferred motor vehicle. However, if the proper registration fee of the motor vehicle sought to be registered by such person is greater than the registration fee of the transferred motor vehicle, the applicant shall pay, in addition to such fee of ~~\$25.00~~ \$30.00, the difference between the registration fee of the motor vehicle previously registered and the proper fee for the registration of the motor vehicle sought to be registered.

* * * Registration; Fees and Exemptions * * *

Sec. 43. 23 V.S.A. § 361 is amended to read:

§ 361. PLEASURE CARS

The annual registration fee for ~~registration of any motor vehicle of the a~~ pleasure car ~~type, as defined in subdivision 4(28) of this title,~~ and all vehicles powered by electricity, shall be ~~\$74.00~~ \$89.00, and the biennial fee shall be ~~\$136.00~~ \$163.00.

Sec. 44. 23 V.S.A. § 364 is amended to read:

§ 364. MOTORCYCLES

The annual fee for registration of a motorcycle, with or without sidecar, shall be ~~\$46.00~~ \$56.00.

Sec. 45. 23 V.S.A. § 364a is amended to read:

§ 364a. MOTOR-DRIVEN CYCLES: REGISTRATION; FINANCIAL
RESPONSIBILITY

(a) The annual fee for registration of a motor-driven cycle shall be ~~\$28.00~~ \$34.00.

* * *

Sec. 46. 23 V.S.A. § 364b is amended to read:

§ 364b. ALL-SURFACE VEHICLES; REGISTRATION

(a) The annual fee for registration of an all-surface vehicle (ASV) shall be the sum of the fees established by sections 3305 and 3504 of this title, plus ~~\$26.00~~ \$32.00.

* * *

Sec. 47. 23 V.S.A. § 367 is amended to read:

§ 367. TRUCKS

(a)(1) The annual fee for registration of tractors, truck-tractors, or motor trucks except truck cranes, truck shovels, road oilers, bituminous distributors, and farm trucks used as specified in subsection (f) of this section shall be based on the total weight of the truck-tractor or motor truck, including body and cab plus the heaviest load to be carried. In computing the fees for registration of tractors, truck-tractors, or motor trucks with trailers or semi-trailers attached, except trailers or semi-trailers with a gross weight of less than 6,000 pounds, the fee shall be based upon the weight of the tractor, truck-tractor, or motor truck, the weight of the trailer or semi-trailer, and the weight of the heaviest load to be carried by the combined vehicles. In addition to the fee set out in the following schedule, the fee for vehicles weighing between 10,000 and 25,999 pounds inclusive shall be an additional ~~\$35.50~~ \$42.53, the

fee for vehicles weighing between 26,000 and 39,999 pounds inclusive shall be an additional ~~\$70.98~~ \$85.03, the fee for vehicles weighing between 40,000 and 59,999 pounds inclusive shall be an additional ~~\$248.48~~ \$297.68, and the fee for vehicles 60,000 pounds and over shall be an additional ~~\$390.48~~ \$467.80. The fee shall be computed at the following rates per 1,000 pounds of weight determined pursuant to this subdivision and rounded up to the nearest whole dollar; the minimum fee for registering a tractor, truck-tractor, or motor truck to 6,000 pounds shall be the same as for the pleasure car type:

~~\$15.20~~ \$18.21 when the weight exceeds 6,000 pounds but does not exceed 8,000 pounds.

~~\$17.39~~ \$20.83 when the weight exceeds 8,000 pounds but does not exceed 12,000 pounds.

~~\$19.17~~ \$22.97 when the weight exceeds 12,000 pounds but does not exceed 16,000 pounds.

~~\$20.50~~ \$24.56 when the weight exceeds 16,000 pounds but does not exceed 20,000 pounds.

~~\$21.46~~ \$25.71 when the weight exceeds 20,000 pounds but does not exceed 30,000 pounds.

~~\$21.92~~ \$26.26 when the weight exceeds 30,000 pounds but does not exceed 40,000 pounds.

~~\$22.45~~ \$26.90 when the weight exceeds 40,000 pounds but does not exceed 50,000 pounds.

~~\$22.65~~ \$27.13 when the weight exceeds 50,000 pounds but does not exceed 60,000 pounds.

~~\$23.42~~ \$28.06 when the weight exceeds 60,000 pounds but does not exceed 70,000 pounds.

~~\$24.21~~ \$29.00 when the weight exceeds 70,000 pounds but does not exceed 80,000 pounds.

~~\$24.99~~ \$29.94 when the weight exceeds 80,000 pounds but does not exceed 90,000 pounds.

* * *

(b) The annual fee for registration of a category I special purpose vehicle shall be ~~\$178.00~~ \$214.00, and the annual fee for a category II special purpose vehicle shall be ~~\$415.00~~ \$498.00.

* * *

Sec. 48. 23 V.S.A. § 371 is amended to read:

§ 371. TRAILER AND SEMI-TRAILER

(a)(1) The one-year and two-year fees for registration of a trailer or semi-trailer, except a contractor's trailer or farm trailer, shall be as follows:

(A) ~~\$27.00~~ \$33.00 and ~~\$51.00~~ \$62.00, respectively, when such trailer or semi-trailer has a gross weight of trailer and load of 1,500 pounds or less;

(B) ~~\$52.00~~ \$63.00 and ~~\$102.00~~ \$123.00, respectively, when such trailer or semi-trailer has a gross weight of trailer and load of more than 1,500 pounds and is drawn by a vehicle of the pleasure car type;

(C) ~~\$52.00~~ \$63.00 and ~~\$102.00~~ \$123.00, respectively, when such trailer or semi-trailer is drawn by a motor truck or tractor, when such trailer or semi-trailer has a gross weight of more than 1,500 pounds but less than 3,000 pounds;

(D) ~~\$52.00~~ \$63.00 and ~~\$102.00~~ \$123.00, respectively, when such trailer or semi-trailer is used in combination with a truck-tractor or motor truck registered at the fee provided for combined vehicles under section 367 of this title. Excepting for the fees, the provisions of this subdivision shall not apply to trailer coaches as defined in section 4 of this title nor to modular homes being transported by trailer or semi-trailer.

(2) The one-year and two-year fees for registration of a contractor's trailer shall be ~~\$197.00~~ \$237.00 and ~~\$394.00~~ \$473.00, respectively.

* * *

Sec. 49. 23 V.S.A. § 372 is amended to read:

§ 372. MOTOR BUS

The annual fee for registration of a motor bus shall be based on the actual weight of such bus, plus passenger carrying capacity at 150 pounds per person, and shall be ~~\$2.00~~ \$2.40 per 100 pounds of such weight, except for motor buses registered under section 372a or 376 of this title. Fractions of a hundred-weight shall be disregarded. The minimum fee for the registration of any motor bus shall be \$43.00.

Sec. 50. 23 V.S.A. § 372a is amended to read:

§ 372a. LOCAL TRANSIT PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SERVICE

(a) The annual registration fee for any motor bus used in local transit or public transportation service shall be ~~\$62.00~~ \$75.00, except for those vehicles owned by a municipality for such service that are subject to the provisions of

section 376 of this title. In the event a bus registered for local transit or public transportation service is subsequently registered for general use during the same registration year, such fee shall be applied toward the fee for general registration.

* * *

Sec. 51. 23 V.S.A. § 373 is amended to read:

§ 373. EXHIBITION VEHICLES; YEAR OF MANUFACTURE PLATES

(a) The annual fee for the registration of a motor vehicle that is maintained for use in exhibitions, club activities, parades, and other functions of public interest and that is not used for general daily transportation of passengers or property on any highway shall be ~~\$21.00~~ \$26.00, in lieu of fees otherwise provided by law. Permitted use shall include:

* * *

Sec. 52. 23 V.S.A. § 376 is amended to read:

§ 376. STATE, MUNICIPAL, FIRE DEPARTMENT, AND RESCUE
ORGANIZATION MOTOR VEHICLES

* * *

(b) The fee for registration of a motor vehicle owned by any municipality in this State and used entirely by it or any other municipality for municipal purposes shall be ~~\$12.00~~ \$15.00 in lieu of fees otherwise specified in this chapter. ~~As used in~~ For purposes of this subsection, the term municipality shall include county-owned vehicles. The Commissioner shall issue specially designed registration plates for county-owned sheriffs' departments' vehicles.

(c) The registration fee for registration of a motor truck, trailer, ambulance, or other motor vehicle, owned by a volunteer fire department or other volunteer ~~fire-fighting~~ firefighting organization or other organization conducting rescue operations and used solely for fire fighting or rescue purposes shall be ~~\$12.00~~ \$15.00 in lieu of fees otherwise specified in this chapter. A motor vehicle or trailer registered under this section shall be plainly marked on both sides of the body or cab to indicate its ownership.

* * *

(f) A replacement registration plate shall be provided by the Commissioner upon the payment of a fee of ~~\$9.00~~ \$11.00.

(g)(1) The fee for registration of a motor vehicle obtained from the government as excess government property, or a vehicle purchased with 100

percent federal funds and used for federally supported local programs, shall be \$14.00, in lieu of fees otherwise specified in this chapter. The Commissioner shall determine the eligibility as to whether or not the motor vehicle qualifies for this registration and ownership of the vehicle shall be plainly marked on both sides of the body or cab.

* * *

Sec. 53. 23 V.S.A. § 382 is amended to read:

§ 382. DIESEL-POWERED PLEASURE CARS

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the annual registration fee for a pleasure car or tractor, truck-tractor, or motor truck up to 6,000 pounds powered by fuel as defined in section 3002 of this title shall be ~~\$74.00~~ \$89.00, and the biennial fee shall be ~~\$136.00~~ \$163.00.

* * * Registration; Registration of Dealers and Transporters * * *

Sec. 54. 23 V.S.A. § 453 is amended to read:

§ 453. FEES AND NUMBER PLATES

(a)(1) An application for registration as a dealer in new or used cars or motor trucks shall be accompanied by a fee of ~~\$503.00~~ \$603.00 for each certificate issued in such dealer's name. The Commissioner shall furnish free of charge with each dealer's registration certificate three number plates showing the distinguishing number assigned such dealer. The Commissioner may furnish additional plates according to the volume of the dealer's sales in the prior year or, in the case of an initial registration, according to the dealer's reasonable estimate of expected sales, as follows:

* * *

(2) If the issuance of additional plates is authorized under subdivision (1) of this subsection, up to two plates shall be provided free of charge, and the Commissioner shall collect ~~\$55.00~~ \$66.00 for each additional plate thereafter.

(b) Application by a "dealer in farm tractors or other self-propelled farm implements," which shall mean a person actively engaged in the business of selling or exchanging new or used farm tractors or other self-propelled farm implements, for such dealer registration shall annually be accompanied by a fee of ~~\$78.00~~ \$94.00. The Commissioner shall furnish free of charge with each such dealer registration certificate two sets of number plates showing the distinguishing number assigned such dealer and in ~~his or her~~ the Commissioner's discretion may furnish further sets of plates at a fee of \$12.00 per set; such number plates may, however, be displayed only upon a farm tractor or other self-propelled farm implement.

(c) Application by a “dealer in motorized highway building equipment and road making appliances,” which shall mean a person actively engaged in the business of selling or exchanging new or used motorized highway building equipment or road making appliances, for such dealer registration shall annually be accompanied by a fee of ~~\$123.00~~ \$148.00. The Commissioner shall furnish free of charge with each such dealer registration certificate two sets of number plates showing the distinguishing number assigned such dealer and in ~~his or her~~ the Commissioner’s discretion may furnish further sets of plates at a fee of \$30.00 per set; such number plates may, however, be displayed only upon motorized highway building equipment or road making appliances.

(d) If a dealer is engaged only in the business of selling or exchanging motorcycles or motor-driven cycles, the registration fee shall be ~~\$62.00~~ \$75.00, which shall include three number plates. The Commissioner may, in ~~his or her~~ the Commissioner’s discretion, furnish further sets of plates at a fee of \$10.00 for each set.

(e) If a dealer is engaged only in the business of selling or exchanging trailers, semi-trailers, or trailer coaches, the registration fee shall be ~~\$123.00~~ \$148.00, which shall include three number plates; such number plates may, however, be displayed only upon a trailer, semi-trailer, or trailer coach. The Commissioner may, in ~~his or her~~ the Commissioner’s discretion, furnish further plates at a fee of \$10.00 for each such plate.

* * *

Sec. 55. 23 V.S.A. § 457 is amended to read:

§ 457. TEMPORARY PLATES

At the time of the issuance of a registration certificate to a dealer as provided in this chapter, the Commissioner shall furnish the dealer with a sufficient number of number plates and temporary validation stickers, temporary number plates, or temporary decals for use during the 60-day period immediately following sale of a vehicle or motorboat by the dealer. The plates and decals shall have the same general design as the plates or decals furnished individual owners, but the plates and decals may be of a material and color as the Commissioner may determine. The Commissioner shall collect a fee of ~~\$5.00~~ \$6.00 for each temporary plate issued.

Sec. 56. 23 V.S.A. § 463 is amended to read:

§ 463. SALE OF VEHICLE TO GO OUT OF STATE

A registered motor vehicle dealer is authorized to issue an in-transit registration permit for the purpose of movement over the highways of certain

motor vehicles otherwise required to be registered when these vehicles are sold in this State to be transported to and registered in another state or province. The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall, upon request, provide registered motor vehicle dealers with such numbers of applications and special in-transit number plates for vehicles sold in this State to be transported to and registered in another state or province as shall be necessary. The Commissioner is authorized to charge a fee of ~~\$6.00~~ \$8.00 for the processing of the plate application and the issuance of the plate. The dealer, upon the sale of a motor vehicle to be transported to and registered in another state or province, shall cause the application to be filled out and transmitted to the Commissioner and shall attach to the vehicle the in-transit number plate corresponding to the application. No registered motor vehicle dealer shall sell, exchange, give, or transfer any application or in-transit plate to any person other than the person to whom the dealer sells or exchanges a motor vehicle to be registered in another state or province. The application shall be in a form prescribed and furnished by the Commissioner. The special in-transit number plate to be attached to the vehicle will be issued in the form and design as prescribed by the Commissioner and shall be valid for a period of 30 days from the date of issue.

Sec. 57. 23 V.S.A. § 476 is amended to read:

§ 476. MOTOR VEHICLE WARRANTY FEE

A motor vehicle warranty fee of ~~\$6.00~~ \$8.00 is imposed on the registration of each new motor vehicle in this State, not including trailers, tractors, motorized highway building equipment, road-making appliances, snowmobiles, motorcycles, motor-driven cycles, or trucks with a gross vehicle weight over 12,000 pounds.

Sec. 58. 23 V.S.A. § 494 is amended to read:

§ 494. FEES

The annual fee for a transporter's registration certificate, number plate, or validation sticker is ~~\$123.00~~ \$148.00.

* * * Registration; Display of Number Plates * * *

Sec. 59. 23 V.S.A. § 514 is amended to read:

§ 514. REPLACEMENT NUMBER PLATES

(a) In case of the loss of a number plate, the owner of the motor vehicle to which it was assigned shall immediately notify the Commissioner of such loss, and the Commissioner shall furnish such owner with a new plate. The fee charged shall be ~~\$12.00~~ \$15.00 for each plate. The owner of a motor vehicle

who has lost one number plate may operate ~~his or her~~ the owner's vehicle with only one number plate attached, until a new plate is furnished ~~him or her~~ to the owner, provided ~~he or she~~ the owner notified the Commissioner as required under this section.

(b) Any replacement number plate shall be issued at a fee of ~~\$12.00~~ \$15.00. However, if the Commissioner, in ~~his or her~~ the Commissioner's discretion, determines that a plate has become illegible as a result of deficiencies in the manufacturing process or by use of faulty materials, the replacement fee shall be waived.

Sec. 60. 23 V.S.A. § 516 is amended to read:

§ 516. SALE OF VEHICLE TO GO OUT OF STATE BY A PERSON
OTHER THAN DEALER

The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles is authorized to issue an in-transit registration permit for the purpose of movement over the highways of certain motor vehicles otherwise required to be registered when the vehicles are sold in this State by a person, other than a registered motor vehicle dealer, to be transported to and registered in another state or province. The registration may be obtained by submitting an application on a form prescribed and furnished by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles. The Commissioner is authorized to charge a fee of ~~\$6.00~~ \$8.00 for the processing of the application and the issuance of the plate. The in-transit registration plate pursuant to this section shall be valid for a period of 30 days from issuance and shall be in the form and design prescribed by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles. Issuance of an in-transit plate for vehicles sold by a registered motor vehicle dealer to a person to be transported to and registered in another state or province shall be governed by the provisions of section 463 of this title.

Sec. 61. 23 V.S.A. § 517 is amended to read:

§ 517. INTRASTATE IN-TRANSIT PERMIT

The Commissioner may issue an intrastate in-transit registration permit to authorize the movement within Vermont of a motor vehicle otherwise required to be registered, if the vehicle is sold in this State by a person other than a registered motor vehicle dealer. The permit may be obtained after submission of an application on a form prescribed and furnished by the Commissioner and payment of a ~~\$6.00~~ \$8.00 fee. The permit shall be valid for a period of 10 days from the date of issuance and shall be in the form and design prescribed by the Commissioner.

* * * Operator's License; General Provisions * * *

Sec. 62. 23 V.S.A. § 608 is amended to read:

§ 608. FEES

(a) The four-year fee required to be paid the Commissioner for licensing an operator of motor vehicles or for issuing an operator's privilege card shall be ~~\$51.00~~ \$62.00. The two-year fee required to be paid the Commissioner for licensing an operator or for issuing an operator's privilege card shall be ~~\$32.00~~ \$39.00, and the two-year fee for licensing a junior operator or for issuing a junior operator's privilege card shall be ~~\$32.00~~ \$39.00.

(b) An additional fee of ~~\$3.00~~ \$4.00 per year shall be paid for a motorcycle endorsement. The endorsement may be obtained for either a two-year or four-year period, to be coincidental with the length of the operator's license.

Sec. 63. 23 V.S.A. § 613 is amended to read:

§ 613. REPLACEMENT LICENSE

(a) In case of the loss, mutilation, or destruction of a license or error in a license, the licensee shall forthwith notify the Commissioner who shall furnish such licensee with a replacement on receipt of ~~\$20.00~~ \$24.00.

* * *

Sec. 64. 23 V.S.A. § 617 is amended to read:

§ 617. LEARNER'S PERMIT

* * *

(b)(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, any licensed person may apply to the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles for a learner's permit for the operation of a motorcycle in the form prescribed by the Commissioner. The Commissioner shall offer both a motorcycle learner's permit that authorizes the operation of three-wheeled motorcycles only and a motorcycle learner's permit that authorizes the operation of any motorcycle. The Commissioner shall require payment of a fee of ~~\$20.00~~ \$24.00 at the time application is made.

(2) After the applicant has successfully passed all parts of the applicable motorcycle endorsement examination, other than a skill test, the Commissioner may issue to the applicant a learner's permit that entitles the applicant, subject to subsection 615(a) of this title, to operate a three-wheeled motorcycle only, or to operate any motorcycle, upon the public highways for a period of 120 days from the date of issuance. The fee for the examination shall be ~~\$9.00~~ \$11.00.

(3) A motorcycle learner's permit may be renewed only twice upon payment of a ~~\$20.00~~ \$24.00 fee. If, during the original permit period and two renewals the permittee has not successfully passed the applicable skill test or motorcycle rider training course, ~~he or she~~ the permittee may not obtain another motorcycle learner's permit for a period of 12 months from the expiration of the permit unless:

* * *

(d) An applicant shall pay ~~\$20.00~~ \$24.00 to the Commissioner for each learner's permit or a duplicate or renewal thereof.

* * *

* * * Operator's License; General Provisions * * *

Sec. 65. 23 V.S.A. § 634 is amended to read:

§ 634. FEE FOR EXAMINATION

(a) The fee for an examination for a learner's permit shall be ~~\$32.00~~ \$39.00. The fee for an examination to obtain an operator's license when the applicant is required to pass an examination pursuant to section 632 of this title shall be ~~\$19.00~~ \$23.00. The fee for a motorcycle skill test to obtain a motorcycle endorsement shall be ~~\$19.00~~ \$23.00.

(b) A scheduling fee of ~~\$24.00~~ \$29.00 shall be paid by the applicant before ~~he or she~~ the applicant may schedule the road test required under section 632 of this title. Unless an applicant gives the Department at least 48 hours' notice of cancellation, if the applicant does not appear as scheduled, the ~~\$24.00~~ \$29.00 scheduling fee is forfeited. If the applicant appears for the scheduled road test, the fee shall be applied toward the license examination fee. The Commissioner may waive the scheduling fee until the Department is capable of administering the fee electronically.

* * *

* * * Operator's License; Suspension and Revocation * * *

Sec. 66. 23 V.S.A. § 675 is amended to read:

§ 675. FEE PRIOR TO TERMINATION OR REINSTATEMENT OF
SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF LICENSE

(a) Before a suspension or revocation issued by the Commissioner of a person's operator's license or privilege of operating a motor vehicle may be terminated or before a person's operator's license or privilege of operating a motor vehicle may be reinstated, there shall be paid to the Commissioner a fee

of ~~\$80.00~~ \$96.00 in addition to any other fee required by statute. This section shall not apply to suspensions issued under the provisions of chapter 11 of this title nor suspensions issued for physical disabilities or failing to pass reexamination. The Commissioner shall not reinstate the license of a driver whose license was suspended pursuant to section 1205 of this title until the Commissioner receives certification from the court that the costs due the State have been paid.

* * *

* * * Operator's License; Driver Training School Licenses * * *

Sec. 67. 23 V.S.A. § 702 is amended to read:

§ 702. TRAINING SCHOOL AND INSTRUCTOR'S LICENSES

A person shall not operate a driver training school or act as an instructor unless the person has secured a license from the Commissioner. Applications for such licenses may be filed with the Commissioner and shall contain the information and shall be on the forms the Commissioner may prescribe. Each application for a driver's training school license shall be accompanied by an application fee of ~~\$150.00~~ \$180.00, which shall not be refunded. If the application is approved by the Commissioner, the applicant upon payment of an additional fee of ~~\$225.00~~ \$270.00 shall be granted a license, which shall become void two years after the first day of the month of issue unless sooner revoked as provided in this subchapter. The renewal fee shall be ~~\$225.00~~ \$270.00. Each application for an instructor's license shall be accompanied by an application fee of ~~\$105.00~~ \$126.00, which shall not be refunded. If the application is approved by the Commissioner, the applicant upon payment of an additional fee of ~~\$75.00~~ \$90.00 shall be granted a license, which shall become void two years after the first day of the month of issue unless sooner revoked as provided in this subchapter. The renewal fee shall be ~~\$75.00~~ \$90.00.

Sec. 68. 23 V.S.A. § 703 is amended to read:

§ 703. POSSESSION OF LICENSE

Each person granted a driver's training school license shall display the same conspicuously on the school premises. Each person granted an instructor's license shall carry the same in ~~his or her~~ the person's possession while engaged in giving driver training. In case of loss, mutilation, or destruction of a license certificate, the Commissioner shall issue a duplicate certificate upon payment of a fee of ~~\$8.00~~ \$10.00.

* * * Operation of Vehicles; Equipment * * *

Sec. 69. 23 V.S.A. § 1230 is amended to read:

§ 1230. CHARGE

For each inspection certificate issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles, the Commissioner shall be paid ~~\$6.00~~ \$8.00, provided that State and municipal inspection stations that inspect only State or municipally owned and registered vehicles shall not be required to pay a fee. All vehicle inspection certificate charge revenue shall be allocated to the Transportation Fund with one-half reserved for bridge maintenance activities.

* * * Operation of Vehicles; Weight, Size, Loads * * *

Sec. 70. 23 V.S.A. § 1392 is amended to read:

§ 1392. GROSS WEIGHT LIMITS ON HIGHWAYS

* * *

(13) Despite the axle-load provisions of section 1391 of this title and the maximum gross load of subdivision (4) of this section, a special annual permit, which shall expire with the vehicle's registration, except for vehicles not registered in Vermont in which case the permit shall become void on January 1 following date of issue, may be issued to a person or corporation operating on designated routes on the State Highway System for a fee of ~~\$415.00~~ \$498.00 for each vehicle that must be registered for a weight of 80,000 pounds. This special permit shall be issued only for a combination of vehicle and semi-trailer or trailer equipped with five or more axles, with a distance between axles that meets the minimum requirements of registering the vehicle to 80,000 pounds as allowed under subdivision (4) of this section. The maximum gross load under this special permit shall be 90,000 pounds. Unless authorized by federal law, this subdivision shall not apply to operation on the Dwight D. Eisenhower National System of Interstate and Defense Highways.

(14) Despite the axle-load provisions of section 1391 of this title and the axle spacing and maximum gross load provisions of subdivision (4) of this section, a special annual permit, which shall expire with the vehicle's registration, except for vehicles not registered in Vermont in which case the permit shall become void on January 1 following date of issue, may be issued to a person or corporation transporting loads on vehicles on designated routes on the State Highway System for the following fees for each vehicle unit. Unless authorized by federal law, the provisions of this subdivision regarding weight limits, tolerances, or both, shall not apply to operation on the Dwight D. Eisenhower National System of Interstate and Defense Highways. This special permit shall be issued for the following vehicles and conditions:

(A) 3-axle trucks with a single steering axle and a rear tandem axle that have a maximum gross weight of not more than 60,000 pounds when registered for a minimum gross weight of not more than 55,000 pounds, the permit fee shall be ~~\$156.00~~ \$187.00.

(B) 4-axle trucks with a single steering axle and a rear tri-axle unit that have a maximum gross weight of not more than 69,000 pounds when registered for a minimum weight of 60,000 pounds, the permit fee shall be ~~\$352.00~~ \$422.00.

(C) 4-axle tractor semi-trailer or truck trailer combination with a maximum gross weight of not more than 72,000 pounds, provided the distance between the second axle of the tractor and the rear axle of the trailer is at least 24 feet measured to the nearest foot. For each foot or fraction of a foot less than 24 feet, measured to the nearest foot, a reduction of 2,000 pounds in the maximum gross weight shall be made. The permit fee shall be ~~\$15.00~~ \$18.00.

(D) 5- or more axle tractor semi-trailer or truck trailer combination with a maximum gross weight of not more than 76,000 pounds, provided that the distance between the first and last axle of two consecutive sets of tandem axles is at least 24 feet measured to the nearest foot. For each foot or fraction of a foot less than 24 feet, measured to the nearest foot, a reduction of 2,000 pounds in the maximum gross weight shall be made. The permit fee shall be ~~\$15.00~~ \$18.00.

* * *

(16) Notwithstanding the axle load provisions of section 1391 of this title and the maximum gross load of subdivision (4) of this section, a five or more axle truck tractor, semi-trailer combination, or truck trailer combination, when the load consists solely of unprocessed milk products as defined in subdivision 4(55) of this title, may be registered for and operated with a maximum gross weight of 90,000 pounds on State highways without permit and upon posted State and town highways and those highways designated as the Dwight D. Eisenhower National System of Interstate and Defense Highways when the vehicle has been issued a permit in compliance with the provisions of section 1400 of this title; however:

* * *

(C) The fee for the annual permit as provided in this subdivision (16) shall be ~~\$10.00~~ \$12.00 when the fee has been paid to register the vehicle for 90,000 pounds or ~~\$382.00~~ \$458.00 when the vehicle is registered for 80,000 pounds.

(17) Notwithstanding the gross vehicle weight provisions of subdivision (4) of this section, a truck trailer combination or truck tractor, semi-trailer combination with six or more load-bearing axles shall be allowed to bear a maximum of 99,000 pounds by special annual permit, which shall expire with the vehicle's registration, except for vehicles not registered in Vermont in which case the permit shall become void on January 1 following the date of issue, for operating on designated routes on State and town highways, subject to the following:

* * *

(F) The fee for the annual permit as provided in this subdivision (17) shall be ~~\$415.00~~ \$498.00 for vehicles bearing up to 90,000 pounds and ~~\$560.00~~ \$671.00 for vehicles bearing up to 99,000 pounds.

* * *

Sec. 71. 23 V.S.A. § 1402 is amended to read:

§ 1402. OVERWEIGHT, WIDTH, HEIGHT, AND LENGTH PERMITS;

FEES

(a) Overweight, overwidth, indivisible overlength, and overheight permits. Overweight, overwidth, indivisible overlength, and overheight permits shall be signed by the Commissioner or by ~~his or her~~ the Commissioner's agent and a copy shall be kept in the office of the Commissioner or in a location approved by the Commissioner. Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, a copy shall also be available in the towing vehicle and must be available for inspection on demand of a law enforcement officer. Before operating a traction engine, tractor, trailer, motor truck, or other motor vehicle, the person to whom a permit to operate in excess of the weight, width, indivisible overlength, and height limits established by this title is granted shall pay a fee of ~~\$40.00~~ \$48.00 for each single trip permit or ~~\$112.00~~ \$135.00 for a blanket permit, except that the fee for a fleet blanket permit shall be ~~\$112.00~~ \$135.00 for the first unit and ~~\$6.00~~ \$8.00 for each unit thereafter. At the option of a carrier, an annual permit for the entire fleet, to operate over any approved route, may be obtained for ~~\$112.00~~ \$135.00 for the first tractor and ~~\$6.00~~ \$8.00 for each additional tractor, up to a maximum fee of \$1,000.00. The fee for a fleet permit shall be based on the entire number of tractors owned by the applicant. An applicant for a fleet permit may apply for any number of specific routes, each of which shall be reviewed with regard to the characteristics of the route and the type of equipment operated by the applicant. When the weight or size of the vehicle-load are considered sufficiently excessive for the routing requested, the Agency of Transportation

shall, on request of the Commissioner, conduct an engineering inspection of the vehicle-load and route, for which a fee of \$300.00 will be added to the cost of the permit if the load is a manufactured home. For all other loads of any size or with gross weight limits less than 150,000 pounds, the fee shall be \$800.00 for any engineering inspection that requires up to eight hours to conduct. If the inspection requires more than eight hours to conduct, the fee shall be \$800.00 plus \$60.00 per hour for each additional hour required. If the vehicle and load weigh 150,000 pounds or more but not more than 200,000 pounds, the engineering inspection fee shall be \$2,000.00. If the vehicle and load weigh more than 200,000 pounds but not more than 250,000 pounds, the engineering inspection fee shall be \$5,000.00. If the vehicle and load weigh more than 250,000 pounds, the engineering inspection fee shall be \$10,000.00. The study must be completed prior to the permit being issued. Prior to the issuance of a permit, an applicant whose vehicle weighs 150,000 pounds or more, or is 15 or more feet in width or height, shall file with the Commissioner a special certificate of insurance showing minimum coverage of \$250,000.00 for death or injury to one person, \$500,000.00 for death or injury to two or more persons, and \$250,000.00 for property damage, all arising out of any one crash.

(b) Overlength permits. Except as provided in subsections 1432(c) and (e) of this title, it shall be necessary to obtain an overlength permit as follows:

(1) For vehicles with a trailer or semitrailer longer than 75 feet, anywhere in the State on highways approved by the Agency of Transportation. In such cases, the vehicle may be operated with a single trip overlength permit issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles for a fee of ~~\$28.00~~ \$34.00. If the vehicle is 100 feet or more in length, the permit applicant shall file with the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles a special certificate of insurance showing minimum coverage of \$250,000.00 for death or injury to one person, \$500,000.00 for death or injury to two or more persons, and \$250,000.00 for property damage, all arising out of any one crash.

* * *

* * * Title to Motor Vehicles; General Provisions * * *

Sec. 72. 23 V.S.A. § 2002 is amended to read:

§ 2002. FEES

(a) The Commissioner shall be paid the following fees:

(1) for any certificate of title, including a salvage certificate of title, or an exempt vehicle title, ~~\$35.00~~ \$42.00;

- (2) for each security interest noted upon a certificate of title, including a salvage certificate of title, ~~\$11.00~~ \$14.00;
- (3) for a certificate of title after a transfer, ~~\$35.00~~ \$42.00;
- (4) for each assignment of a security interest noted upon a certificate of title, ~~\$11.00~~ \$14.00;
- (5) for a duplicate certificate of title, including a salvage certificate of title, ~~\$35.00~~ \$42.00;
- (6) for an ordinary certificate of title issued upon surrender of a distinctive certificate, ~~\$35.00~~ \$42.00;
- (7) for filing a notice of security interest, ~~\$11.00~~ \$14.00;
- (8) for a certificate of search of the records of the Department of Motor Vehicles, for each motor vehicle searched against, ~~\$22.00~~ \$27.00;
- (9) for filing an assignment of a security interest, ~~\$11.00~~ \$14.00;
- (10) for a certificate of title after a security interest has been released, ~~\$35.00~~ \$42.00;
- (11) for a certificate of title for a motor vehicle acquired by a veteran with financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and exempt from registration fees pursuant to section 378 of this title, no fee;
- (12) for a corrected certificate of title, ~~\$35.00~~ \$42.00.

* * *

* * * Titling of Vessels, Snowmobiles, and All-terrain Vehicles * * *

Sec. 73. 23 V.S.A. § 3802 is amended to read:

§ 3802. FEES

- (a) The Commissioner shall be paid the following fees:
 - (1) for filing an application for a first certificate of title, ~~\$22.00~~ \$27.00;
 - (2) for each security interest noted upon a certificate of title, ~~\$11.00~~ \$14.00;
 - (3) for a certificate of title after a transfer, ~~\$22.00~~ \$27.00;
 - (4) for each assignment of a security interest noted upon a certificate of title, ~~\$11.00~~ \$14.00;
 - (5) for a duplicate certificate of title, ~~\$22.00~~ \$27.00;

(6) for an ordinary certificate of title issued upon surrender of a distinctive certificate, ~~\$22.00~~ \$27.00;

(7) for filing a notice of security interest, ~~\$11.00~~ \$14.00;

(8) for a certificate of search of the records of the Department of Motor Vehicles for each vessel, snowmobile, or all-terrain vehicle searched against, ~~\$22.00~~ \$27.00;

(9) for filing an assignment of a security interest, ~~\$11.00~~ \$14.00;

(10) for a certificate of clear title after the security interest or interests have been released, ~~\$22.00~~ \$27.00;

(11) for a corrected certificate of title, ~~\$22.00~~ \$27.00.

* * *

* * * Commercial Driver's License Act * * *

Sec. 74. 23 V.S.A. § 4108 is amended to read:

§ 4108. COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE, COMMERCIAL
LEARNER'S PERMIT QUALIFICATION STANDARDS

* * *

(f) The fee for a knowledge test and the fee for a skills test shall each be ~~\$32.00~~ \$39.00. The fee for an endorsement test shall be ~~\$14.00~~ \$17.00. In the event that an applicant fails a test three times, ~~he or she~~ the applicant may not take the test again for at least six months. A fee of ~~\$24.00~~ \$29.00 shall be paid by the applicant before ~~he or she~~ the applicant may schedule a skills test. If an applicant does not appear for the scheduled skills test, the ~~\$24.00~~ \$29.00 scheduling fee is forfeited, unless the applicant has given the Department of Motor Vehicles at least 48 hours' notice of cancellation of the test. If the applicant appears for the skills test, the ~~\$24.00~~ \$29.00 scheduling fee for that test will be used as part of the test fee. Use of an interpreter is prohibited during the administration of the knowledge or skills tests.

* * *

Sec. 75. 23 V.S.A. § 4110 is amended to read:

§ 4110. APPLICATION FOR COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE OR
COMMERCIAL LEARNER'S PERMIT

* * *

(8) The proper fee.

(A) The four-year fee for a commercial driver's license shall be ~~\$90.00~~ \$108.00. The two-year fee shall be ~~\$60.00~~ \$72.00. In those instances where the applicant surrenders a valid Vermont Class D license, the total fees due shall be reduced by:

* * *

(B) The fee for a commercial learner's permit is ~~\$15.00~~ \$18.00.

* * *

(b) When a licensee or permittee changes ~~his or her~~ the licensee's or permittee's name, mailing address, or residence or in the case of the loss, mutilation, or destruction of a license or permit, the licensee or permittee shall forthwith notify the Commissioner and apply in person for a duplicate license or permit in the same manner as set forth in subsection (a) of this section. The fee for a duplicate license or permit shall be ~~\$15.00~~ \$18.00.

* * *

* * * Motor Vehicle Purchase and Use Tax * * *

Sec. 76. 32 V.S.A. § 8903 is amended to read:

§ 8903. TAX IMPOSED

(a)(1) There is hereby imposed upon the purchase in Vermont of a motor vehicle by a resident a tax at the time of such purchase, payable as hereinafter provided. The amount of the tax shall be six percent of the taxable cost of a:

* * *

(2) For any other motor vehicle, it shall be six percent of the taxable cost of the motor vehicle or ~~\$2,075.00~~ \$2,486.00 for each motor vehicle, whichever is smaller, except that pleasure cars that are purchased, leased, or otherwise acquired for use in short-term rentals shall be subject to taxation under subsection (d) of this section.

(b)(1) There is hereby imposed upon the use within this State a tax of six percent of the taxable cost of a:

* * *

(2) For any other motor vehicle, it shall be six percent of the taxable cost of the motor vehicle or ~~\$2,075.00~~ \$2,486.00 for each motor vehicle, whichever is smaller, by a person at the time of first registering or transferring a registration to such motor vehicle payable as hereinafter provided, except no use tax shall be payable hereunder if the tax imposed by subsection (a) of this section has been paid, or the vehicle is a pleasure car that was purchased,

leased, or otherwise acquired for use in short-term rentals, in which case the vehicle shall be subject to taxation under subsection (d) of this section.

* * *

* * * Agency of Transportation Positions * * *

Sec. 77. AGENCY OF TRANSPORTATION POSITIONS

(a) The conversion of the following limited-service positions to permanent classified positions is authorized in fiscal year 2024: nine State Airport Maintenance Workers and one State Airport Operations Specialist.

(b) The establishment of the following new permanent classified positions is authorized in fiscal year 2024: one Transportation Operations Technician III and one Transportation Technician IV within Highway Maintenance.

* * * Effective Dates * * *

Sec. 78. EFFECTIVE DATES

(a) This section and Secs. 16 (authority to modify eBike Incentive Program eligibility requirements) and 33 (extension of sunset for Agency of Transportation's P3 authority) shall take effect on passage.

(b) Secs. 35–76 (DMV fees) shall take effect on January 1, 2024.

(c) All other sections shall take effect on July 1, 2023.

(Committee Vote: 8-4-0)

Rep. Scheu of Middlebury, for the Committee on Appropriations, recommends the bill be amended as recommended by the Committee on Ways and Means and when further amended as follows:

First: In Sec. 2, highway maintenance, in subdivision (b)(1), by striking out “the fiscal year 2023 budget adjustment act” and inserting in lieu thereof “2023 Acts and Resolves No. 3”

Second: In Secs. 17–19, reallocation of funding, in the section headings, by striking out “the fiscal year 2023 budget adjustment act” and inserting in lieu thereof “2023 Acts and Resolves No. 3” in each section heading

Third: By striking out Sec. 77, Agency of Transportation positions, and its reader assistance heading in their entirety

and by renumbering the remaining section to be numerically correct.

(Committee Vote: 8-3-1)

H. 486

An act relating to school construction

(Rep. Brady of Williston will speak for the Committee on Education.)

Rep. Beck of St. Johnsbury, for the Committee on Ways and Means, recommends the bill ought to pass.

(Committee Vote: 11-1-0)

Rep. Mihaly of Calais, for the Committee on Appropriations, recommends the bill ought to pass when amended as follows:

First: In Sec. 1, School Construction Aid Task Force; report, in subsection (b), by striking out subdivisions (1) and (2) in their entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

(1) two current members of the House of Representatives, who shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House;

(2) two current members of the Senate, who shall be appointed by the Committee on Committees;

Second: In Sec. 1, School Construction Aid Task Force; report, in subdivision (d)(2), after “technical assistance from a school construction expert” and before the period, by inserting “and any administrative, technical, financial, or legal assistance required by the Task Force”

Third: In Sec. 1, School Construction Aid Task Force; report, in subsection (h), after “fiscal year 2024” and before “the Task Force” by striking out “to hire a school construction expert to assist” and inserting in lieu thereof “to retain any administrative, technical, financial, legal, or construction experts required by”

(Committee Vote: 10-1-1)

For Informational Purposes

CROSSOVER DATES

The Joint Rules Committee established the following crossover deadlines:

(1) All **Senate/House** bills must be reported out of the last committee of reference (including the Committees on Appropriations and Finance/Ways and Means, except as provided below in (2) and the exceptions listed below) on or

before **Friday, March 17, 2023**, and filed with the Secretary/Clerk so they may be placed on the Calendar for Notice the next legislative day – Committee bills must be voted out of Committee by **Friday, March 17, 2023**.

(2) All **Senate/House** bills referred pursuant to Senate Rule 31 or House Rule 35(a) to the Committees on Appropriations and Finance/Ways and Means must be reported out by the last of those committees on or before **Friday, March 24, 2023**, and filed with the Secretary/Clerk so they may be placed on the Calendar for Notice the next legislative day.

Note: The Senate will not act on bills that do not meet these crossover deadlines, without the consent of the Senate Rules Committee.

Exceptions to the foregoing deadlines include the major money bills (the general Appropriations bill (“The Big Bill”), the Transportation Capital bill, the Capital Construction bill and the Fee/Revenue bills).

NOTICE OF JFO GRANTS AND POSITIONS

Grants and Positions that have been submitted to the Joint Fiscal Committee by the Administration, under 32 V.S.A. §5(b)(3)(D):

JFO #3138: One (1) limited-service position, Statewide Grants Administrator, to the Agency of Administration, Department of Finance and Management to cover increased grant activity due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The position is funded through Act 185 of 2022. Sec G.801 of the Act appropriates ARPA funds for administrative costs related to the pandemic. This position is funded through 12/31/2026. The grant packet can be found at:

<https://ljfo.vermont.gov/assets/grants-documents/ec01b0bea7/JFO-3138-packet.pdf>

[Received February 9, 2023]

JFO #3137: One (1) limited-service position to the Vermont Department of Health, Senior Health Asbestos and Lead Engineer, to perform senior professional level work to educate, advise on and enforce Vermont asbestos and lead control regulations. The position is funded through 9/30/2024 through an existing Environmental Protection Agency grant. The grant packet can be found at: <https://ljfo.vermont.gov/assets/grants-documents/a44b7c8cac/JFO-3137-packet-v2.pdf>

[Received 1/23/2023]

JFO #3136: \$5,000,000.00 to the Agency of Administration, Public Service Department, VT Community Broadband Board (VCBB) from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment Program to deliver broadband to unserved and underserved areas in Vermont. This is a 5-year grant and will fill in the technical gaps existing in the VCBB's program of broadband deployment. The grant packet can be found at: <https://ljfo.vermont.gov/assets/grants-documents/3d7b96fcb1/JFO-3136-packet.pdf>
[Received 1/23/2023]