



The University of Vermont

Policy Research Assistance Available from The Vermont Legislative Research Service (VLRS) in Advance of the 2024 Legislative Session

The **Vermont Legislative Research Service (VLRS)** is taking requests from legislators for policy research in advance of the 2024 session. The VLRS will be operating ten student research teams during the fall 2023 semester to answer your policy questions. These teams will be working directly under the supervision of University of Vermont Political Science faculty Dr. Anthony “Jack” Gierzynski (VLRS Director) or Dr. Jonathan “Doc” Bradley (who specializes in energy and environmental issues). The VLRS exists to provide nonpartisan information for legislators on issues before the legislature while training students to find, evaluate and synthesize that information for you. VLRS students will then be available to intern with individual legislators, committees or caucuses during the 2024 legislative session.

What can we do for you?

The types of research requests we should be able to fill include:

- investigations into practices and programs in other states (through the Web, the National Conference of State Legislators (NCSL), and phone contact with other state officials);
- reports summarizing the state of knowledge on subjects drawn from the latest academic studies;
- information on federal programs and grants;
- and, information regarding the state of Vermont.

In the last couple of years students have done numerous reports including analyses of:

- Impacts of Casino Legalization
- Low-impact Waste Water Systems
- Pre-Kindergarten Education Funding
- Neonicotinoids and Pollinator Health
- Automotive Insurance Policies for Youth in Foster Care
- The Benefits Cliff
- Regenerative Soil
- Maple Sugaring Regulations
- Marijuana and Academic Performance
- Pharmaceutical Residues in the Water

All of the policy reports are posted on our Web page: <https://www.uvm.edu/cas/polisci/vermont-legislative-research-service-vlrs>.

How to contact the VLRS?

Requests should be submitted via our webpage <https://www.uvm.edu/cas/polisci/forms/vlrs-research-request> or directly to Professor Gierzynski’s email agierzyn@uvm.edu. Requests for information should be as specific as possible. Include the type of report (a full policy report or a quick memo or both) the date by which you need the information, your name and how to contact you. Also let us know if you want to remain anonymous as the requester. We will email the completed reports to the legislator making the request and the reports will be posted on our Web page.

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

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