

Senate Calendar

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 2011

SENATE CONVENES AT: 1:00 P.M.

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ACTION CALENDAR

CONSIDERATION INTERRUPTED BY ADJOURNMENT

S. 67.

An act relating to the open meeting law.

PENDING QUESTION: Shall the bill be amended as recommended by the Committee on Government Operations?

(For text of the report of the Committee on Government Operations, see Senate Journal of Tuesday, March 15, 2011, page 233)

NEW BUSINESS

Third Reading

S. 16.

An act relating to confidentiality of cases accepted by the court diversion project.

Committee Bills for Second Reading

S. 91.

An act relating to motor vehicle operation and entertainment pictures.

By the Committee on Transportation. (Senator Kitchel for the committee.)

S. 92.

An act relating to the protection of students' health by requiring the use of safe cleaning products in schools.

By the Committee on Education. (Senator Lyons for the committee.)

Favorable

S. 53.

An act relating to the number of prekindergarten children included within a school district's average daily membership.

Reported favorably by Senator Baruth for the Committee on Education.

(Committee vote: 4-0-1)

Reported favorably by Senator Fox for the Committee on Finance.

(Committee vote: 6-1-0)

Second Reading

Favorable with Recommendation of Amendment

S. 30.

An act relating to enhancing the penalty for assault of a nurse.

Reported favorably with recommendation of amendment by Senator Cummings for the Committee on Judiciary.

The Committee recommends that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 13 V.S.A. § 1028 is amended to read:

§ 1028. ASSAULT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER, FIREFIGHTER, ~~EMERGENCY ROOM PERSONNEL, OR~~ EMERGENCY MEDICAL PERSONNEL MEMBER, OR HEALTH CARE WORKER; ASSAULT WITH BODILY FLUIDS

(a) A person convicted of a simple or aggravated assault against a law enforcement officer, a firefighter, emergency room personnel, an employee of a health care facility as defined in 18 V.S.A. § 9432(8) who provides direct care to patients or who is part of a team-response to a patient or visitor incident involving real or potential violence, or a member of emergency services personnel as defined in subdivision 24 V.S.A. § 2651(6) while the officer, firefighter, health care worker, employee, or emergency medical personnel member is performing a lawful duty, in addition to any other penalties imposed under sections 1023 and 1024 of this title, shall:

(1) For the first offense, be imprisoned not more than one year;

(2) For the second offense and subsequent offenses, be imprisoned not more than ten years.

(b)(1) No person shall intentionally cause blood, vomitus, excrement, mucus, saliva, semen, or urine to come in contact with a ~~law enforcement officer~~ person designated in subsection (a) of this section while the ~~officer~~ person is performing a lawful duty.

(2) A person who violates this subsection shall be imprisoned not more than one year or fined not more than \$1,000.00, or both.

Sec. 2. LAW ENFORCEMENT ADVISORY BOARD

The law enforcement advisory board shall adopt a model policy to address enforcement of the criminal code as it relates to an assault of a health care

worker while he or she is engaged in his or her official duties providing patient care.

Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on passage.

and that after passage the title of the bill be amended to read: “An act relating to assault of a health care worker”

(Committee vote: 5-0-0)

S. 38.

An act relating to the Uniform Collateral Consequences of Conviction Act.

Reported favorably with recommendation of amendment by Senator Cummings for the Committee on Judiciary.

The Committee recommends that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 13 V.S.A. chapter 231 is added to read:

CHAPTER 231. UNIFORM COLLATERAL
CONSEQUENCES OF CONVICTION

§ 8001. SHORT TITLE

This act may be cited as the Uniform Collateral Consequences of Conviction Act.

§ 8002. DEFINITIONS

As used in this chapter:

(1) “Collateral consequence” means a collateral sanction or a disqualification.

(2) “Collateral sanction” means a penalty, disability, or disadvantage imposed on an individual as a result of the individual’s conviction of an offense which applies by operation of law whether or not the penalty, disability, or disadvantage is included in the judgment or sentence. The term does not include imprisonment, probation, parole, supervised release, forfeiture, restitution, fine, assessment, or costs of prosecution.

(3) “Conviction” includes an adjudication for delinquency for purposes of this chapter only, unless otherwise specified. “Convicted” has a corresponding meaning.

(4) “Decision-maker” means the state acting through a department, agency, officer, or instrumentality, including a political subdivision,

educational institution, board, or commission, or its employees or a government contractor, including a subcontractor, made subject to this chapter by contract, by law other than this chapter, or by ordinance.

(5) "Disqualification" means a penalty, disability, or disadvantage that an administrative agency, governmental official, or court in a civil proceeding is authorized, but not required, to impose on an individual on grounds relating to the individual's conviction of an offense.

(6) "Offense" means a felony, misdemeanor, or delinquent act under the laws of this state, another state, or the United States.

(7) "Person" means an individual, corporation, business trust, estate, trust, partnership, limited liability company, association, joint venture, public corporation, government or governmental subdivision, agency, instrumentality, or any other legal or commercial entity.

(8) "State" means a state of the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, or any territory or insular possession subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.

§ 8003. LIMITATION ON SCOPE

(a) This chapter does not provide a basis for:

(1) invalidating a plea, conviction, or sentence;

(2) a cause of action for money damages; or

(3) a claim for relief from or defense to the application of a collateral consequence based on a failure to comply with this subchapter.

(b) This chapter shall not affect:

(1) the duty an individual's attorney owes to the individual;

(2) a claim or right of a victim of an offense; or

(3) a right or remedy under law other than this subchapter available to an individual convicted of an offense.

§ 8004. IDENTIFICATION, COLLECTION, AND PUBLICATION OF LAWS REGARDING COLLATERAL CONSEQUENCES

(a)(1) The attorney general shall:

(A) Identify or cause to be identified any provision in this state's constitution, statutes, and administrative rules which imposes a collateral sanction or authorizes the imposition of a disqualification and any provision of law that may afford relief from a collateral consequence.

(B) Prepare a collection of citations to and the text or short descriptions of the provisions identified under subdivision (a)(1)(A) of this section not later than August 1, 2012.

(C) Update the collection provided under subdivision (B) of this subdivision (1) annually by July 1.

(2) In complying with subdivision (a)(1) of this section, the attorney general may rely on the study of this state's collateral sanctions, disqualifications, and relief provisions prepared by the National Institute of Justice described in Section 510 of the Court Security Improvement Act of 2007, Pub. L. 110-177.

(b) The attorney general shall include or cause to be included the following statements in a prominent manner at the beginning of the collection required by subsection (a) of this section:

(1) This collection has not been enacted into law and does not have the force of law.

(2) An error or omission in this collection or any reference work cited in this collection is not a reason for invalidating a plea, conviction, or sentence or for not imposing a collateral sanction or authorizing a disqualification.

(3) The laws of other jurisdictions which impose additional collateral sanctions and authorize additional disqualifications are not included in this collection.

(4) This collection does not include any law or other provision regarding the imposition of or relief from a collateral sanction or a disqualification enacted or adopted after [insert date the collection was prepared or last updated].

(c) The attorney general shall publish or cause to be published the collection prepared and updated as required by subsection (a) of this section. The attorney general shall publish or cause to be published as part of the collection the title and Internet address, if available, of the most recent collection of:

(1) the collateral consequences imposed by federal law; and

(2) any provision of federal law that may afford relief from a collateral consequence.

(d) An agency that adopts a rule pursuant to 3 V.S.A. §§ 836–844 which implicates collateral consequences to a conviction shall forward a copy of the rule to the attorney general.

§ 8005. NOTICE OF COLLATERAL CONSEQUENCES IN PRETRIAL PROCEEDING

When an individual receives formal notice that the individual is charged with an offense, the court shall cause information substantially similar to the following to be communicated to the individual:

NOTICE OF ADDITIONAL LEGAL CONSEQUENCES

(a) If you plead guilty or are convicted of an offense, you may suffer additional legal consequences beyond jail or prison, home confinement, probation, and fines. These consequences may include:

- Being unable to get or keep some licenses, permits, or jobs.
- Being unable to get or keep benefits such as public housing or education.
- Receiving a harsher sentence if you are convicted of another offense in the future.
- Having the government take your property.
- Being unable to possess a firearm.

If you are not a United States citizen, a guilty plea or conviction may also result in your deportation, removal, exclusion from admission to the United States, or denial of citizenship.

The law may provide ways to obtain some relief from these consequences.

Further information about the consequences of conviction is available on the Internet at [insert Internet address of the collection of laws published under this subchapter].

(b) Before the court accepts a plea of guilty or nolo contendere from an individual, the court shall confirm that the individual received the notice required by subsection (a) of this section and had an opportunity to discuss the notice with counsel, if represented, and understands that there may be collateral consequences to a conviction.

§ 8006. NOTICE OF COLLATERAL CONSEQUENCES AT SENTENCING AND UPON RELEASE

(a) An individual convicted of an offense shall be given notice, as provided in subsections (b) and (c) of this section, of the following:

(1) That collateral consequences may apply because of the conviction.

(2) The Internet address of the collection of laws published under this subchapter.

(3) That there may be ways to obtain relief from collateral consequences.

(4) Contact information for government or nonprofit agencies, groups, or organizations, if any, offering assistance to individuals seeking relief from collateral consequences.

(5) That conviction of a crime in this state does not prohibit an individual from voting in this state.

(b) The court shall provide the notice in subsection (a) of this section as a part of sentencing.

(c) If an individual is sentenced to imprisonment or home confinement, the department of corrections shall provide the notice in subsection (a) of this section not more than 30 days and at least 10 days before discharge or release to community supervision.

§ 8007. AUTHORIZATION REQUIRED FOR COLLATERAL SANCTION; AMBIGUITY

(a) A collateral sanction may be imposed only by statute or ordinance or by a rule adopted in the manner provided in 3 V.S.A. §§ 836–844.

(b) A law creating a collateral consequence that is ambiguous as to whether it imposes an automatic collateral sanction or whether it authorizes a decision-maker to disqualify a person based upon his or her conviction shall be construed as authorizing a disqualification.

§ 8008. DECISION TO DISQUALIFY

In deciding whether to impose a disqualification, a decision-maker shall undertake an individualized assessment to determine whether the benefit or opportunity at issue should be denied the individual. In making that decision, the decision-maker may consider, if substantially related to the benefit or opportunity at issue, the particular facts and circumstances involved in the offense and the essential elements of the offense. A conviction itself may not be considered except as having established the elements of the offense. The decision-maker shall also consider other relevant information, including the effect on third parties of granting the benefit or opportunity and whether the individual has been granted relief such as an order of limited relief or a certificate of restoration of rights.

§ 8009. EFFECT OF CONVICTION BY ANOTHER STATE OR THE UNITED STATES; RELIEVED OR PARDONED CONVICTION

(a) For purposes of authorizing or imposing a collateral consequence in this state, a conviction of an offense in a court of another state or the United States

is deemed a conviction of the offense in this state with the same elements. If there is no offense in this state with the same elements, the conviction is deemed a conviction of the most serious offense in this state which is established by the elements of the offense. A misdemeanor in the jurisdiction of conviction may not be deemed a felony in this state, and an offense lesser than a misdemeanor in the jurisdiction of conviction may not be deemed a conviction of a felony or misdemeanor in this state.

(b) For purposes of authorizing or imposing a collateral consequence in this state, a juvenile adjudication in another state or the United States may not be deemed a conviction of a felony, misdemeanor, or offense lesser than a misdemeanor in this state, but may be deemed a juvenile adjudication for the delinquent act in this state with the same elements. If there is no delinquent act in this state with the same elements, the juvenile adjudication is deemed an adjudication of the most serious delinquent act in this state which is established by the elements of the offense.

(c) A conviction that is reversed, overturned, or otherwise vacated by a court of competent jurisdiction of this state, another state, or the United States on grounds other than rehabilitation or good behavior may not serve as the basis for authorizing or imposing a collateral consequence in this state.

(d) A pardon issued by another state or the United States has the same effect for purposes of authorizing, imposing, and relieving a collateral consequence in this state as it has in the issuing jurisdiction.

(e) A conviction that has been relieved by expungement, sealing, annulment, set-aside, or vacation by a court of competent jurisdiction of another state or the United States on grounds of rehabilitation or good behavior, or for which civil rights are restored pursuant to statute, has the same effect for purposes of authorizing or imposing collateral consequences in this state as it has in the jurisdiction of conviction. However, such relief or restoration of civil rights does not relieve collateral consequences applicable under the law of this state for which relief could not be granted under section 8012 of this title or for which relief was expressly withheld by the court order or by the law of the jurisdiction that relieved the conviction. An individual convicted in another jurisdiction may seek relief under section 8010 or 8011 of this title from any collateral consequence for which relief was not granted in the issuing jurisdiction, other than those listed in section 8012 of this title, and the court shall consider that the conviction was relieved or civil rights restored in deciding whether to issue an order of limited relief or certificate of restoration of rights.

(f) A charge or prosecution in any jurisdiction which has been finally terminated without a conviction and imposition of sentence based on

successful participation in a deferred adjudication or diversion program may not serve as the basis for authorizing or imposing a collateral consequence in this state. This subsection does not affect the validity of any restriction or condition imposed by law as part of participation in the deferred adjudication or diversion program, before or after the termination of the charge or prosecution.

§ 8010. ORDER OF LIMITED RELIEF

(a) An individual convicted of an offense may petition for an order of limited relief from one or more collateral sanctions related to employment, education, housing, public benefits, or occupational licensing. After notice, the petition may be presented to the sentencing court at or before sentencing or to the superior court at any time after sentencing.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in section 8012 of this title, the court may issue an order of limited relief relieving one or more of the collateral sanctions described in this subchapter if, after reviewing the petition, the individual's criminal history record, any filing by a victim under section 8015 of this title or a prosecuting attorney, and any other relevant evidence, it finds the individual has established by a preponderance of the evidence that:

(1) granting the petition will materially assist the individual in obtaining or maintaining employment, education, housing, public benefits, or occupational licensing;

(2) the individual has substantial need for the relief requested in order to live a law-abiding life; and

(3) granting the petition would not pose an unreasonable risk to the safety or welfare of the public or any individual.

(c) The order of limited relief shall specify:

(1) the collateral sanction from which relief is granted; and

(2) any restriction imposed pursuant to section 8018 of this title.

(d) An order of limited relief relieves a collateral sanction to the extent provided in the order.

(e) If a collateral sanction has been relieved pursuant to this section, a decision-maker may consider the conduct underlying a conviction as provided in section 8008 of this title.

§ 8011. CERTIFICATE OF RESTORATION OF RIGHTS

(a) An individual convicted of an offense may petition the court for a certificate of restoration of rights relieving collateral sanctions not sooner than

five years after the individual's most recent conviction of a felony or misdemeanor in any jurisdiction, or not sooner than five years after the individual's release from confinement pursuant to a criminal sentence in any jurisdiction, whichever is later.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in section 8012 of this title, the court may issue a certificate of restoration of rights if, after reviewing the petition, the individual's criminal history, any filing by a victim under section 8015 of this title or a prosecuting attorney, and any other relevant evidence, it finds the individual has established by a preponderance of the evidence that:

(1) the individual is engaged in or seeking to engage in a lawful occupation or activity, including employment, training, education, or rehabilitative programs, or the individual otherwise has a lawful source of support;

(2) the individual is not in violation of the terms of any criminal sentence or that any failure to comply is justified, excused, involuntary, or insubstantial;

(3) a criminal charge is not pending against the individual; and

(4) granting the petition would not pose an unreasonable risk to the safety or welfare of the public or to any individual.

(c) A certificate of restoration of rights must specify any restriction imposed and collateral sanction from which relief has not been granted under section 8013 of this title.

(d) A certificate of restoration of rights relieves all collateral sanctions, except those listed in section 8012 of this title and any others specifically excluded in the certificate.

(e) If a collateral sanction has been relieved pursuant to this section, a decision-maker may consider the conduct underlying a conviction as provided in section 8008 of this title.

§ 8012. COLLATERAL SANCTIONS NOT SUBJECT TO ORDER OF LIMITED RELIEF OR CERTIFICATE OF RESTORATION OF RIGHTS

An order of limited relief or certificate of restoration of rights may not be issued to relieve the following collateral sanctions:

(1) Requirements imposed by chapter 167, subchapter 3 of this title (sex offender registration; law enforcement notification).

(2) A motor vehicle license suspension, revocation, limitation, or ineligibility pursuant to Title 23 for which restoration or relief is available, including occupational, temporary, and restricted licensing provisions.

(3) Ineligibility for employment by law enforcement agencies, including the attorney general's office, state's attorney, police departments, sheriff's departments, state police, or the department of corrections.

§ 8013. ISSUANCE, MODIFICATION, AND REVOCATION OF ORDER OF LIMITED RELIEF AND CERTIFICATE OF RESTORATION OF RIGHTS

(a) When a petition is filed under section 8010 or 8011 of this title, including a petition for enlargement of an existing order of limited relief or certificate of restoration of rights, the court shall notify the office that prosecuted the offense giving rise to the collateral consequence from which relief is sought and, if the conviction was not obtained in a court of this state, the attorney general. The court may issue an order or certificate subject to restriction, condition, or additional requirement. When issuing, denying, modifying, or revoking an order or certificate, the court may impose conditions for a subsequent petition.

(b) The court may restrict or revoke an order of limited relief or certificate of restoration of rights if it finds just cause by a preponderance of the evidence. Just cause includes subsequent conviction of a felony in this state or of an offense in another jurisdiction that is deemed a felony in this state. An order of restriction or revocation may be issued:

(1) on motion of the court, the prosecuting attorney who obtained the conviction, or a government agency designated by that prosecutor;

(2) after notice to the individual and any prosecutor that has appeared in the matter; and

(3) after a hearing if requested by the individual or the prosecutor that made the motion or any prosecutor that has appeared in the matter.

(c) The court shall order any test, report, investigation, or disclosure by the individual it reasonably believes necessary to its decision to issue, modify, or revoke an order of limited relief or certificate of restoration of rights. If there are material disputed issues of fact or law, the individual and any prosecutor notified under subsection (a) of this section or another prosecutorial agency designated by a prosecutor notified under subsection (a) of this section may submit evidence and be heard on those issues.

(d) The court shall maintain a public record of the issuance, modification, and revocation of orders of limited relief and certificates of restoration of rights. A criminal history record as defined in 20 V.S.A. § 2056a and a criminal conviction record as defined in 20 V.S.A. § 2056c shall include issuance, modification, and revocation of orders and certificates.

(e) The court may adopt rules for application, determination, modification, and revocation of orders of limited relief and certificates of restoration of rights.

§ 8014. RELIANCE ON ORDER OR CERTIFICATE AS EVIDENCE OF DUE CARE

In a judicial or administrative proceeding alleging negligence or other fault, an order of limited relief or a certificate of restoration of rights may be introduced as evidence of a person's due care in hiring, retaining, licensing, leasing to, admitting to a school or program, or otherwise transacting business or engaging in activity with the individual to whom the order was issued, if the person knew of the order or certificate at the time of the alleged negligence or other fault.

§ 8015. VICTIM'S RIGHTS

A victim of an offense may participate in a proceeding for issuance, modification, or revocation of an order of limited relief or a certificate of restoration of rights in the same manner as at a sentencing proceeding pursuant to section 5321 of this title to the extent permitted by rules adopted by the court.

§ 8016. UNIFORMITY OF APPLICATION AND CONSTRUCTION

In applying and construing this uniform act, consideration must be given to the need to promote uniformity of the law with respect to its subject matter among states that enact it.

§ 8017. SAVINGS AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

(a) This subchapter applies to collateral consequences whenever enacted or imposed, unless the law creating the collateral consequence expressly states that this subchapter does not apply.

(b) This subchapter does not invalidate the imposition of a collateral sanction on an individual before July 1, 2012, but a collateral sanction validly imposed before July 1, 2012 may be the subject of relief under this subchapter.

Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2012.

(Committee vote: 5-0-0)

S. 42.

An act relating to art galleries serving malt or vinous beverages.

Reported favorably with recommendation of amendment by Senator Galbraith for the Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs.

The Committee recommends that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 7 V.S.A. § 5 is added to read:

§ 5. BOOKSTORES AND ART GALLERIES; WINE TASTING; EXEMPTION; LIABILITY

(a) For purposes of this section, “art gallery” means a building or room primarily devoted to the creation, exhibition, or sale of works of art.

(b) Bookstores and art galleries may serve free of charge malt or vinous beverages by the individual glass to a person for consumption on the premises at an event open to the public and advertised as such for no longer than five hours per day and on no more than four days per month. No license or permit shall be required. A bookstore or art gallery shall not serve malt or vinous beverages to: (1) a minor; (2) a person apparently under the influence of intoxicating liquor; (3) a person after legal serving hours; or (4) a person whom it would be reasonable to expect would be under the influence of intoxicating liquor as a result of the amount of liquor served to that person. The owner of a bookstore or art gallery may be held liable for damages pursuant to sections 501(a), (b), (e) and (f) of this title, even though the owner is not licensed by the board.

And that after passage the title of the bill be amended to read:

“An act relating to bookstores and art galleries serving malt or vinous beverages.”

(Committee vote: 5-0-0)

S. 52.

An act to protect employees from abuse at work.

Reported favorably with recommendation of amendment by Senator Doyle for the Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs.

The Committee recommends that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. FINDINGS

The general assembly finds that:

(1) Some studies have concluded that over one-third of American workers have been the targets of malicious or abusive treatment by supervisors or coworkers which is wholly unrelated to legitimate workplace goals or acceptable business practices.

(2) Some studies have concluded that 45 percent of bullied employees suffer stress-related health problems, including debilitating anxiety, panic attacks, clinical depression, and post-traumatic stress.

(3) Abusive behavior occurs even in the absence of any motive to discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, place of birth, or age or against a qualified disabled individual. Such nondiscriminatory abuse is often referred to as “workplace bullying.”

(4) The Vermont office of attorney general’s civil rights unit reports that of the 1,200 to 1,300 requests for assistance it receives each year, a substantial number involve allegations of severe workplace bullying that cannot be addressed by current state or federal law or common law tort claims. Similarly, the Vermont human rights commission, which has jurisdiction in employment discrimination claims against the state, reports that it must refuse complaints of workplace bullying because the inappropriate behaviors are not motivated by the targeted employee’s membership in a category protected by antidiscrimination laws.

(5) Sweden enacted the first workplace bullying law in 1993, and since then several countries have taken a variety of approaches to the problem, including the creation of private legal remedies and the prohibition of workplace bullying through occupational safety and health laws.

(6) The general assembly recognizes that there is a need to strike a balance between affording Vermont workers relief from bullying and unduly interfering with the operation of workplaces.

(7) However, given the limited duration of the legislative session, the potential impact on existing labor contracts and personnel policies, and the various options available to address this issue, a considered approach should be presented for consideration by the 2011 adjourned session of the general assembly.

Sec. 2. STUDY

(a) A committee is established to study the issue of workplace bullying in Vermont and to make recommendations to address the manner in which workplace bullying should be addressed by the state, by employers, and by affected employees. The committee shall examine:

(1) A definition of “workplace bullying” or “abusive conduct” in the workplace not addressed by existing law.

(2) Whether there is a need for additional laws regarding workplace bullying.

(3) Different models for remedying workplace bullying, including:

(A) Creating a private right of action that would include the recovery of damages.

(B) Creating a mechanism for injunctive relief similar to those relating to stalking, hate crimes, or relief-from-abuse orders.

(C) State enforcement similar to the employment discrimination law.

(D) State enforcement by the Vermont occupational safety and health administration.

(E) Any other issues relevant to workplace bullying.

(b) The committee established by subsection (a) of this section shall also recommend any measures, including proposed legislation, to address bullying in the workplace.

(c) The committee established by subsection (a) of this section shall consist of the following members:

(1) The attorney general or designee.

(2) The executive director of the human rights commission or designee.

(3) The commissioner of the department of labor or designee.

(4) The commissioner of the department of human resources or designee.

(5) The state coordinator of the Vermont healthy workplace advocates.

(6) Two representatives from the business community, one to be appointed by the speaker of the house and one to be appointed by the committee on committees.

(7) Two representatives from labor organizations, one to be appointed by the speaker of the house and one to be appointed by the committee on committees.

(8) The executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Vermont or designee.

(9) The executive director of the Vermont Bar Association or designee.

(d) The committee shall convene its first meeting no later than July 15, 2011. The commissioner of labor shall be designated as the chair of the commission, and shall convene the first and subsequent meetings.

(e) The committee shall report its findings and any recommendations to the senate committee on economic development, housing and general affairs, and the house committee on commerce and economic development on or before January 15, 2012. The report shall include any recommended legislation to address the issue of workplace bullying.

(f) The committee shall cease to function upon transmitting its report.

and that after passage the title of the bill be amended to read: "An act relating to workplace bullying".

(Committee vote: 5-0-0)

NOTICE CALENDAR

Committee Bills for Second Reading

S. 93.

An act relating to labeling maple products.

By the Committee on Agriculture.

S. 94.

An act relating to miscellaneous amendments to the motor vehicle laws.

By the Committee on Transportation.

S. 95.

An act relating to exemptions for newspaper deliverers from the unemployment statutes; relieving an employer's experience rating record of charges; studying the receipt of unemployment compensation between academic terms; allowing school employees to be paid wages over the course of a year; and requiring employers to furnish required work apparel.

By the Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs.

S. 96.

An act relating to technical corrections to the workers' compensation statutes.

By the Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs.

S. 97.

An act relating to the study of carbon monoxide detectors in school buildings.

By the Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs.

S. 98.

An act relating to authorizing owner-financed property sales.

By the Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs.

House Proposal of Amendment

J.R.S. 20

Joint resolution providing for a Joint Assembly to vote on the retention of a Chief Justice and four Justices of the Supreme Court, three Judges of the Superior Court, and seven Judges of the District Court.

The House proposes to the Senate to amend the resolution as follows:

In the Resolved Clause by striking out the following, "Thursday, March 24, 2011, at nine o' clock and thirty minutes in the forenoon" and inserting in lieu thereof the following: Wednesday, March 30, 2011, at one o' clock in the afternoon

CONFIRMATIONS

The following appointments will be considered by the Senate, as a group, under suspension of the Rules, as moved by the President *pro tempore*, for confirmation together and without debate, by consent thereby given by the Senate. However, upon request of any senator, any appointment may be singled out and acted upon separately by the Senate, with consideration given to the report of the Committee to which the appointment was referred, and with full debate; and further, all appointments for the positions of Secretaries of Agencies, Commissioners of Departments, Judges, Magistrates, and members of the Public Service Board shall be fully and separately acted upon.

Kate Duffy of Williston – Commissioner of the Department of Human Resources– By Sen. Flory for the Committee on Government Operations. (1/25/11)

Jim Reardon of Essex Junction – Commissioner of the Department of Finance and Management – By Sen. White for the Committee on Government Operations. (1/28/11)

Chuck Ross of Hinesburg – Secretary of the Agency of Agriculture – By Sen. Kittell for the Committee on Agriculture. (1/28/11)

Robert D. Ide of Peacham – Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles – By Sen. Kitchel for the Committee on Transportation. (1/28/11)

Jeb Spaulding of Montpelier – Secretary of the Agency of Administration – By Sen. Pollina for the Committee on Government Operations. (1/28/11)

Mary Peterson of Williston – Commissioner of the Department of Taxes – By Sen. Westman for the Committee on Finance. (1/28/11)

Steve Kimbell of Tunbridge – Commissioner of the Department of Banking, Insurance, Securities and Health Care Administration – By Sen. Cummings for the Committee on Finance. (1/28/11)

Brian Searles of Burlington – Secretary of the Agency of Transportation – By Sen. Mazza for the Committee on Transportation. (2/1/11)

Bruce Post of Essex Junction – Member of the Board of Libraries – By Sen. Baruth for the Committee on Education. (2/4/11)

Jason Gibbs of Duxbury – Member of the Community High School of Vermont Board – By Sen. Doyle for the Committee on Education. (2/15/11)

John Fitzhugh of West Berlin – Member of the Board of Libraries – By Sen. Doyle for the Committee on Education. (2/15/11)

Susan Wehry of Burlington – Commissioner of the Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living – By Sen. Pollina for the Committee on Health and Welfare. (2/15/11)

Dave Yacavone of Morrisville – Commissioner of the Department of Children and Families – By Sen. Fox for the Committee on Health and Welfare. (2/15/11)

Christine Oliver of Montpelier – Commissioner of the Department of Mental Health – By Sen. Mullin for the Committee on Health and Welfare. (2/15/11)

Doug Racine of Richmond – Secretary of the Agency of Human Services – By Sen. Ayer for the Committee on Health and Welfare. (2/15/11)

Michael Obuchowski of Montpelier – Commissioner of the Department of Buildings and General Services – By Sen. Hartwell for the Committee on Institutions. (2/17/11)

Susan Besio of Jericho – Commissioner of the Department of Vermont Health Access – By Sen. Miller for the Committee on Health and Welfare. (2/18/11)

Susan Besio of Jericho – Commissioner of the Department of Vermont Health Access – By Sen. Miller for the Committee on Health and Welfare. (2/18/11)

Harry Chen of Mendon – Commissioner of the Department of Health – By Sen. Mullin for the Committee on Health and Welfare. (2/18/11)

Andrew Pallito of Jericho – Commissioner of the Department of Corrections – By Sen. Hartwell for the Committee on Institutions. (2/18/11)

Keith Flynn of Derby Line – Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety – By Sen. Flory for the Committee on Transportation. (2/22/11)

Elizabeth Strano of Bennington – Member of the State Board of Education – By Sen. Baruth for the Committee on Education. (2/24/11)

Amy W. Grillo of Dummerston – Member of the Community High School of Vermont Board – By Sen. Baruth for the Committee on Education. (2/24/11)

Deb Markowitz of Montpelier – Secretary of the Agency of Natural Resources – By Sen. Lyons for the Committee on Natural Resources and Energy. (3/17/11)

CROSSOVER DEADLINES

The following bill reporting deadlines are established for the 2011 session:

(1) From the standing committee of last reference (excluding the Committees on Appropriations and Finance), all Senate bills must be reported out of committee on or before March 11, 2011.

(2) Senate bills referred pursuant to Senate Rule 31, must be reported out of the Committees on Appropriations and Finance on or before March 18, 2011.

(3) These deadlines may be waived for any bill or committee **only** by consent given by the Committee on Rules.

Exceptions to the foregoing deadlines include the major money bills (Appropriations, Transportation, Capital, and Miscellaneous Taxes).

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FY 2012 Budget ADVOCATES TESTIMONY

On **Tuesday, March 22** beginning at **1:30 pm**, the Senate Appropriations Committee will be taking testimony from advocates regarding the Fiscal Year

2012 Budget in the Senate Chamber of the State House. To schedule time before the Committee contact Becky Buck at the Legislative Joint Fiscal Office located at 1 Baldwin Street (phone: 828-5969).