House Calendar

Friday, March 21, 2014

74th DAY OF THE ADJOURNED SESSION

House Convenes at 9:30 A.M.

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ACTION CALENDAR

Action Postponed Until March 21, 2014

Committee Bill for Second Reading

H. 876

An act relating to making miscellaneous amendments and technical corrections to education laws.

(Rep. Rachelson of Burlington will speak for the Committee on **Education.)**

Amendment to be offered by Rep. Wright of Burlington to H. 876

after Sec. 34 and before the reader assistance heading "* * * Repeals * * *", by inserting a reader assistance heading and four new sections to be Secs. 35–38 to read:

* * * Mandatory Binding Arbitration; Strikes; Imposed Contracts; Teachers and Administrators * * *

Sec. 35. 16 V.S.A. § 2011 is added to read:

§ 2011. MANDATORY DETERMINATION BY THE VERMONT LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

(a) If the parties' dispute remains unresolved as to any issue on the 15th day after delivery of the fact-finding commission's report under section 2007 of this title or if the parties otherwise agree that they have reached an impasse, each party shall submit to the Vermont Labor Relations Board its last best offer on all undisputed issues, which shall be reviewed and decided upon as a single package. The Labor Relations Board may hold hearings and may consider the recommendations of the fact-finding committee, if one has been activated.

(b) In reaching a decision, the Labor Relations Board shall give weight to all relevant evidence presented by the parties, including:

(1) the lawful authority of the school board;

(2) stipulations of the parties;

(3) the interest and welfare of the public and the financial ability of the school board to pay for increased costs of public services, including the cost of labor;

(4) comparisons of the wages, hours, and conditions of employment of

the employees involved in the dispute with the wages, hours, and conditions of employment of other employees performing similar services in public schools in comparable communities or in private employment in comparable communities;

(5) the average consumer prices for goods and services commonly known as the cost of living;

(6) the overall compensation currently received by the employees, including direct wages, benefits, continuity conditions and stability of employment, and all other benefits received; and

(7) the prior negotiations and existing conditions of other school and municipal employees.

(c) Within 30 days of receiving the last best offers of the parties, the Labor Relations Board shall select between the offers, considered in their entirety without amendment, and shall determine the cost of its selection. The Labor Relations Board shall not issue an order under this subsection that is in conflict with any law or rule or that relates to an issue that is not bargainable. The Labor Relations Board shall file one copy of the decision with the relevant municipal clerk or clerks and the negotiations councils. Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section, the decision of the Labor Relations Board shall be final and binding on the parties.

(d) The parties shall share equally all mutually incurred costs incidental to this section.

(e) Upon application of a party, a Superior Court shall vacate an award on the same grounds as set forth in 21 V.S.A. § 1733(d) and according to the same procedures as set forth in 21 V.S.A. § 1733(e).

(f) Upon application by either party, a Superior Court may issue a temporary restraining order or other injunctive relief and may award costs, including reasonable attorney's fees in connection with any action taken by a representative organization, its officials, or its members or by a school board or its representative in violation of this section, including engaging in a strike, which shall have the same meaning as in 21 V.S.A. § 1722, and the imposition of contractual terms.

Sec. 36. 3 V.S.A. § 924(e) is amended to read:

(e) In addition to its responsibilities under this chapter, the ~~board~~ Board shall carry out the responsibilities given to it under 16 V.S.A. chapter 57, 21 V.S.A. chapters 19 and 22, and chapter 28 of this title and when so doing shall exercise the powers and follow the procedures set out in that chapter.

Sec. 37. REPEAL

The following sections of Title 16 are repealed:

(1) § 2008 (finality of school board decisions);

(2) § 2010 (injunctions granted only if action poses clear and present danger);

(3) § 2021 (negotiated binding interest arbitration);

(4) § 2022 (selection and decision of arbitrator);

(5) § 2023 (jurisdiction of arbitrator);

(6) § 2024 (judicial appeal);

(7) § 2025 (factors to be considered by the arbitrator);

(8) § 2026 (notice of award); and

(9) § 2027 (fees and expenses of arbitration).

Sec. 38. IMPLEMENTATION

Secs. 35–37 of this act shall apply to negotiations beginning on or after that date for collective bargaining agreements for fiscal year 2016 and after.

and by renumbering the remaining sections to be numerically correct.

Amendment to be offered by Rep. Greshin of Warren to H. 876

After Sec. 34 and before the reader assistance heading "* * * Repeals * * *", by inserting a reader assistance heading and a new section to be Sec. 35 to read:

* * * Dual Enrollment * * *

Sec. 35. 16 V.S.A. § 944 is amended to read:

§ 944. DUAL ENROLLMENT PROGRAM

* * *

(b) Students.

(1) A Vermont resident who has completed grade 10 but has not received a high school diploma is eligible to participate in the Program if:

(A) the student:

(i) is enrolled in:

(I) a Vermont public school, including a Vermont career technical center;

(II) a public school in another state or an approved independent school that is designated as the public secondary school for the student's district of residence; or

(III) an approved or recognized independent school in Vermont ~~to which the student's district of residence pays publicly funded tuition on behalf of the student~~;

(ii) is assigned to a public school through the High School Completion Program; or

(iii) is a home study student;

(B) dual enrollment is an element included within the student's personalized learning plan; and

(C) the secondary school and the postsecondary institution have determined that the student is sufficiently prepared to succeed in a dual enrollment course, which can be determined in part by the assessment tool or tools identified by the participating postsecondary institution.

(2) An eligible student may enroll in up to two dual enrollment courses prior to completion of secondary school for which neither the student nor the student's parent or guardian shall be required to pay tuition. A student may enroll in courses offered while secondary school is in session and during the summer.

* * *

(f) Tuition and funding.

* * *

(4) Notwithstanding any other provision of this subsection (f), a district of residence shall not be responsible for payments under this subsection on behalf of a student enrolled in an approved or recognized independent school for whom tuition is privately paid; rather, if the approved or recognized independent school chooses to participate in the Dual Enrollment Program, then the independent school shall pay the portion of a student's dual enrollment tuition not paid by the State pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection.

* * *

and by renumbering the remaining sections to be numerically correct.

Amendment to be offered by Rep. Lewis of Berlin to H. 876

after Sec. 34 and before the reader assistance heading "* * * Repeals * * *", by inserting a reader assistance heading and a new section to be Sec. 35 to read:

* * * Public School Activities; Students Enrolled in Independent Schools * * *

Sec. 35. 16 V.S.A. § 563(24) is amended to read:

(24) Shall adopt a policy ~~which~~ that, in accordance with rules adopted by the ~~state board of education~~ State Board, will:

(A) integrate home study students into its schools through enrollment in courses, participation in cocurricular and extracurricular activities, including athletics, and use of facilities; and

(B) enable students enrolled in approved and recognized independent schools to participate in all extracurricular activities available to students enrolled in the schools maintained by the district, including membership on the district's athletic teams.

and by renumbering the remaining sections to be numerically correct.

Action Postponed Until March 21, 2014

Favorable with Amendment

H. 448

An act relating to Act 250 and primary agricultural soils

Rep. Stevens of Shoreham, for the Committee on **Agriculture and Forest Products,** 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. § 6093 is amended to read:

§ 6093. MITIGATION OF PRIMARY AGRICULTURAL SOILS

(a) Mitigation for loss of primary agricultural soils. ~~Suitable~~ Subject to the District Commission's approval, an applicant shall provide suitable mitigation for the conversion of primary agricultural soils necessary to satisfy subdivision 6086(a)(9)(B)(iv) of this title ~~shall depend on where the project tract is located.~~ through one of the following means:

(1) ~~Project located in growth center. If the project tract is located in a designated growth center, an applicant who complies with subdivision 6086(a)(9)(B)(iv) of this title shall deposit~~ Off-site mitigation fee. The deposit of an ~~offsite~~ off-site mitigation fee into the Vermont ~~housing and conservation trust fund~~ Housing and Conservation Trust Fund established under section 312 of this title for the purpose of preserving primary agricultural soils of equal or greater value with the highest priority given to preserving prime agricultural soils as defined by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Any required ~~offsite~~ off-site mitigation fee shall be derived by:

(A) ~~determining~~ Determining the number of acres of primary agricultural soils affected by the proposed development or subdivision~~;~~.

(B) ~~multiplying~~ Multiplying the number of affected acres of primary agricultural soils by a factor resulting in a ratio established as follows:

(i) ~~for~~ For development or subdivision within ~~a designated growth center,~~ each of the following areas designated under 24 V.S.A. chapter 76A, the ratio shall be 1:1~~;~~: a downtown development district, a new town center designated on or before January 1, 2014, a designated growth center, and a neighborhood development area associated with a designated downtown development district.

(ii) For development or subdivision outside a designated area listed in subdivision (1)(B)(i) of this subsection, the factor shall be based on the quality of the affected primary agricultural soils and other information that the Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets may consider relevant, including the soil's location, accessibility, tract size, existing agricultural operations, water sources, drainage, slope, the presence of ledge or protected wetlands, the infrastructure of the existing farm or municipality in which the soils are located, and the NRCS rating system for Vermont soils. This factor shall result in a ratio of no less than 2:1, but no more than 3:1, protected acres to acres of impacted primary agricultural soils.

(iii) ~~for~~ For residential construction that has a density of at least eight units of housing per acre, of which at least eight units per acre or at least 40 percent of the units, on average, in the entire development or subdivision, whichever is greater, meets the definition of affordable housing established in this chapter, no mitigation shall be required. However, all affordable housing units shall be subject to housing subsidy covenants, as defined in 27 V.S.A. § 610, that preserve their affordability for a period of 99 years or longer. ~~For purposes of~~ In this section, housing that is rented shall be considered affordable housing when its inhabitants have a gross annual household income that does not exceed 60 percent of the county median income or 60 percent of the standard metropolitan statistical area income if the municipality is located in such an area.

(C) ~~multiplying~~ Multiplying the resulting product by a "price-per-acre" value, which shall be based on the amount that the ~~secretary of agriculture, food and markets~~ Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets has determined to be the recent, per-acre cost to acquire conservation easements for primary agricultural soils in the same geographic region as the proposed development or subdivision.

(2) ~~Project located outside designated growth center. If the project tract~~

~~is not located in a designated growth center, mitigation shall be provided on site in order to preserve primary agricultural soils for present and future agricultural use, with special emphasis on preserving prime agricultural soils. Preservation of primary agricultural soils shall be accomplished through innovative land use design resulting in compact development patterns which will maintain a sufficient acreage of primary agricultural soils on the project tract capable of supporting or contributing to an economic or commercial agricultural operation and shall be enforceable by permit conditions issued by the district commission.~~ On-site mitigation. The preservation of primary agricultural soils on the site of the proposed development or subdivision. The number of acres of primary agricultural soils to be preserved shall be derived by:

(A) ~~determining~~ Determining the number of acres of primary agricultural soils affected by the proposed development or subdivision~~; and~~.

(B) ~~multiplying~~ Multiplying the number of affected acres of primary agricultural soils by a factor based on the quality of those primary agricultural soils~~,~~ and other ~~factors~~ information ~~as~~ that the ~~secretary of agriculture, food and markets~~ Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets may ~~deem~~ consider relevant, including the soil's location~~;~~, accessibility~~;~~, tract size~~;~~, existing agricultural operations~~;~~, water sources~~;~~, drainage~~;~~, slope~~;~~, the presence of ledge or protected wetlands~~;~~, the infrastructure of the existing farm or municipality in which the soils are located~~;~~, and the ~~N.R.C.S.~~ NRCS rating system for Vermont soils. This factor shall result in a ratio of no less than 2:1, but no more than 3:1, protected acres to acres of impacted primary agricultural soils, except for development in a designated area listed in subdivision (1)(B)(i) of this subsection, in which case the ratio shall be 1:1.

(3) ~~Mitigation flexibility.~~

~~(A) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection pertaining to a development or subdivision on primary agricultural soils within a designated growth center, the district commission may, in appropriate circumstances, require onsite mitigation with special emphasis on preserving prime agricultural soils if that action is deemed consistent with the agricultural elements of local and regional plans and the goals of 24 V.S.A. § 4302. In this situation, the approved plans must designate specific soils that shall be preserved inside growth centers. For projects located within a designated growth center, all factors used to calculate suitable mitigation acreage or fees, or some combination of these measures, shall be as specified in this subsection, subject to a ratio of 1:1.~~

~~(B) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (2) of this subsection pertaining to a development or subdivision on primary agricultural~~

~~soils outside a designated growth center, the district commission may, in appropriate circumstances, approve off-site mitigation or some combination of onsite and off-site mitigation if that action is deemed consistent with the agricultural elements of local and regional plans and the goals of 24 V.S.A. § 4302. For projects located outside a designated growth center, all factors used to calculate suitable mitigation acreage or fees, or some combination of these measures, shall be as specified in this subsection, subject to a ratio of no less than 2:1, but no more than 3:1.~~ Combined mitigation. The payment of an off-site mitigation fee under subdivision (a)(1) of this section combined with the preservation of the remaining primary agricultural soils on the site of the proposed development or subdivision under subdivision (a)(2) of this section. For the purpose of calculating the amount of the off-site-mitigation fee and the acreage to be preserved on-site, an applicant may propose and the District Commission may approve an allocation of the acreage of affected primary agricultural soils between subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection (a).

* * *

(b) Requirements and factors. This subsection sets out requirements for and factors to be considered in determining suitable mitigation under this section.

(1) Findings. In determining suitable mitigation, the District Commission shall consider and make findings on each requirement and factor described in subdivisions (2) through (4) of this subsection.

(2) General.

(A) Mitigation for the conversion of primary agricultural soils shall comply with 24 V.S.A. § 2791(13)(A) (smart growth principles; historic development patterns) and (E) (agricultural and forest industries).

(B) The determination of suitable mitigation shall be consistent with the agricultural elements of the applicable local and regional plans and the goals of 24 V.S.A. § 4302.

(3) Mitigation entirely on-site. The District Commission shall give preference to mitigation that is entirely on-site if the Commission finds that:

(A) the project tract supports an agricultural operation or has been in active production or rotation within the last five years; or

(B) the primary agricultural soils on the project tract consist predominantly of NRCS agricultural value groups 1–5; or

(C) after considering the recommendation, if any, of the Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets, the project tract has site-specific characteristics

that warrant on-site mitigation.

(4) Off-site or combined mitigation. The District Commission shall give preference to off-site mitigation, either alone or combined with on-site mitigation, if the Commission finds that:

(A) payment of an off-site mitigation fee, or requiring a combination of on-site and off-site mitigation, will best further the preservation of primary agricultural soils for present and future agricultural use with special emphasis on protecting prime agricultural soils;

(B) the applicant has demonstrated that the development or subdivision maximizes the efficient use and development potential or allowable density of the project tract; and

(C) one of the following applies:

(i) After considering the recommendation, if any, of the Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets, devoting the tract to agricultural uses is impractical based on its size or relationship to other land uses or site-specific characteristics, and the applicant demonstrates that the development or subdivision maximizes the efficient use and development potential or allowable density of the project tract; or

(ii) the project tract:

(I) is surrounded by or adjacent to high density development with supporting infrastructure and the project will contribute to the existing compact development patterns in the area; or

(II) is within an area that contains a mixture of uses, including commercial and industrial, and a significant residential component, supported by municipal water, wastewater, and roadway infrastructure.

(c) Easements required for protected lands. All primary agricultural soils preserved for commercial or economic agricultural use by the Vermont ~~housing and conservation boar~~d Housing and Conservation Board pursuant to this section shall be protected by permanent conservation easements (grant of development rights and conservation restrictions) conveyed to a qualified holder, as defined in section 821 of this title, with the ability to monitor and enforce easements in perpetuity. Off-site mitigation fees may be used by the Vermont ~~housing and conservation board~~ Housing and Conservation Board and shall be used by the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets to pay reasonable staff or transaction costs, or both, of the ~~board and agency of agriculture, food, and markets~~ Board and Agency related to ~~preserve~~ the preservation of primary agricultural soils or to ~~implement~~ the implementation of section 6086(a)(9)(B) or 6093 of this title.

Sec. 2. 10 V.S.A. § 6001(15) is amended to read:

(15) "Primary agricultural soils" means ~~soil map units with the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics that have a potential for growing food, feed, and forage crops, have sufficient moisture and drainage, plant nutrients or responsiveness to fertilizers, few limitations for cultivation or limitations which may be easily overcome, and an average slope that does not exceed 15 percent. Present uses may be cropland, pasture, regenerating forests, forestland, or other agricultural or silvicultural uses. However, the soils must be of a size and location, relative to adjoining land uses, so that those soils will be capable, following removal of any identified limitations, of supporting or contributing to an economic or commercial agricultural operation. Unless contradicted by the qualifications stated in this subdivision, primary agricultural soils shall include important farmland soils map units with a rating of prime, statewide, or local importance as defined by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (N.R.C.S.) of the United States Department of Agriculture (U.S.D.A.)~~ each of the following:

(A) An important farmland soils map unit that the Natural Resources Conservation Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (NRCS) has identified and determined to have a rating of prime, statewide, or local importance, unless the District Commission determines that the soils within the unit have lost their agricultural potential. In determining that soils within an important farmland soils map unit have lost their agricultural potential, the Commission shall consider:

(i) impacts to the soils relevant to the agricultural potential of the soil from previously constructed improvements;

(ii) the presence on the soils of a Class I or Class II wetland under chapter 37 of this title;

(iii) the existence of topographic or physical barriers that reduce the accessibility of the rated soils so as to cause their isolation and that cannot reasonably be overcome; and

(iv) other factors relevant to the agricultural potential of the soils, on a site-specific basis, as found by the Commission after considering the recommendation, if any, of the Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets.

(B) Soils on the project tract that the District Commission finds to be of agricultural importance, due to their present or recent use for agricultural activities and that have not been identified by the NRCS as important farmland soil map units.

Sec. 3. 10 V.S.A. § 6086(a)(9)(B) is amended to read:

(B) Primary agricultural soils. A permit will be granted for the development or subdivision of primary agricultural soils only when it is demonstrated by the applicant that, in addition to all other applicable criteria, either, the subdivision or development will not result in any reduction in the agricultural potential of the primary agricultural soils; or:

(i) the development or subdivision will not significantly interfere with or jeopardize the continuation of agriculture or forestry on adjoining lands or reduce their agricultural or forestry potential; and

(ii) except in the case of an application for a project located in a designated growth center, there are no lands other than primary agricultural soils owned or controlled by the applicant which are reasonably suited to the purpose of the development or subdivision; and

(iii) ~~except in the case of an application for a project located in a designated growth center,~~ the subdivision or development has been planned:

(I) to minimize the reduction of agricultural potential of the primary agricultural soils through ~~innovative~~ land use design ~~resulting~~ that results in compact development patterns, so that the remaining primary agricultural soils on the project tract are capable of supporting or contributing to an economic or commercial agricultural operation; or

(II) to maximize the efficient use and development density of the project tract on which those soils are located, if the reduction in agricultural potential of the primary agricultural soils is to be mitigated entirely off-site pursuant to subdivision (iv) of this subdivision (9)(B); and

(iv) suitable mitigation will be provided for any reduction in the agricultural potential of the primary agricultural soils caused by the development or subdivision, in accordance with section 6093 of this title and rules adopted by the Natural Resources Board.

Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2014.

(Committee Vote: 10-1-0)

Rep. Johnson of Canaan, for the Committee on **Ways and Means,** recommends the bill ought to pass when amended as recommended by the Committee on **Agriculture and Forest Products.**

(Committee Vote: 10-0-1)

Amendment to be offered by Reps. Michelsen of Hardwick, Bartholomew of Hartland, Connor of Fairfield, Lawrence of Lyndon, Martin of Springfield, Partridge of Windham, Smith of New Haven, Terenzini of Rutland Town, Toleno of Brattleboro, and Zagar of Barnard to the recommendation of amendment of the Committee on Agriculture and Forest Products to H. 448

First: In Sec. 1, 10 V.S.A. § 6093 (mitigation of primary agricultural soils), after the first ellipsis, in subsection (b), by striking out the internal caption and the first full sentence prior to subdivision (1) (findings), and inserting in lieu thereof:

Suitable mitigation; outside designated areas. This subsection sets out requirements for and factors to be considered in determining suitable mitigation for development or subdivision of primary agricultural soils outside a designated area listed in subdivision (a)(1)(B)(i) of this section.

Second: After subsection (b), by inserting a new subsection (c) to read:

(c) Suitable mitigation; designated areas. For development or subdivision of primary agricultural soils inside a designated area listed in subdivision (a)(1)(B)(i) of this section, the applicant shall choose a mitigation option that conforms to subdivision (a)(1) (off-site mitigation fee), (2) (on-site mitigation), or (3) (combined mitigation) of this section.

and by relettering the remaining subsection to be alphabetically correct.

Action Postponed Until March 26, 2014

Committee Bill for Second Reading

H. 878

An act relating to prevailing wages.

(Rep. Moran of Wardsboro will speak for the Committee on **General, Housing and Military Affairs.)**

NEW BUSINESS

Third Reading

H. 728

An act relating to developmental services' system of care

H. 791

An act relating to the Housing First Study Committee

H. 869

An act relating to miscellaneous agricultural subjects

H. 871

An act relating to miscellaneous pension changes

H. 877

An act relating to repeal of report requirements that are at least five years old

H. 879

An act relating to administrative hearing officers

Favorable with Amendment

H. 585

An act relating to prohibiting the creation and renewal of State Police contracts with municipalities to provide police services

Rep. Hubert of Milton, for the Committee on **Government Operations,** recommends the bill be amended by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. LEGISLATIVE STUDY; LAW ENFORCEMENT STRUCTURE IN THE STATE

(a) Creation. There is created a Legislative Law Enforcement Study Committee to review various issues related to the structure of law enforcement in the State.

(b) Membership. The Committee shall be composed of the following eight members:

(1) four current members of the House of Representatives, not all from the same political party, who shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House. Two of these members shall be from the Committee on Government Operations and two of whom shall be from the Committee on Judiciary; and

(2) four current members of the Senate, not all from the same political party, who shall be appointed by the Committee on Committees. Two of these members shall be from the Committee on Government Operations and two of whom shall be from the Committee on Judiciary.

(c) Powers and duties. The Committee shall study the structure of law enforcement in the State, including the following issues:

(1) the overall mission of the State Police;

(2) the overall missions of all other law enforcement entities in the State;

(3) the manner in which the State can be provided with the best law enforcement coverage statewide during all hours of every day and with improved law enforcement response times, including whether:

(A) the size of the State Police should be increased due to increased need and in order to reduce workload;

(B) State Police contracts with municipalities improve statewide law enforcement coverage;

(C) certain municipalities should be required to establish municipal police departments or to expand their municipal police department coverage to include additional towns;

(D) the State should be separated into regions with the requirement that there be regional policing within each region and if so, by which law enforcement entities; and

(E) the State should be separated into regions for the purpose of dispatch services;

(4) the manner in which special teams within the State Police can perform at the highest level;

(5) the retention of law enforcement officers prior to the age of retirement;

(6) whether there should be created an Agency of Public Safety and if so, which types of law enforcement officers should be under the jurisdiction of that Agency;

(7) whether the State's capability to perform in-state blood testing in criminal matters should be enhanced in order to avoid using out-of-state blood testing services;

(8) the role of the Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council and the Vermont Police Academy; and

(9) any other issues identified in the latest Law Enforcement Advisory Board report.

(d) Assistance. The Committee shall have the administrative, technical, and legal assistance of the Office of Legislative Council and the Joint Fiscal Office.

(e) Report. On or before December 31, 2014, the Committee shall submit a written report to the General Assembly with its findings and any recommendations for legislative action.

(f) Meetings.

(1) The Speaker of the House and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall call the first meeting of the Committee to occur on or before July 30, 2014.

(2) The Committee shall select two co-chairs from among its members at the first meeting, one of whom shall be a member of the House and one of whom shall be a member of the Senate.

(3)(A) A majority of the members of the Committee shall be physically present at the same location to constitute a quorum.

(B) A member may vote only if physically present at the meeting location.

(C) Action shall be taken only if there is both a quorum and a majority vote of the members physically present and voting.

(4) The Committee shall cease to exist on December 31, 2014.

(g) Reimbursement. For attendance at meetings during adjournment of the General Assembly, legislative members of the Committee shall be entitled to per diem compensation and reimbursement of expenses pursuant to 2 V.S.A. § 406.

Sec. 2. 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 a study of law enforcement structure in the State".

(Committee Vote: 11-0-0)

Rep. Fagan of Rutland City, for the Committee on **Appropriations,** recommends the bill ought to pass when amended as recommended by the Committee on **Government Operations** and when further amended as follows:

First: In Sec. 1 (legislative study; law enforcement structure in the State), in subsection (c) (powers and duties), in subdivision (3), by striking out subdivision (A) and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

(A) the State Police should be right-sized based on a data-driven needs assessment and more effective deployment;

Second: In Sec. 1, in subsection (e) (report), after the first sentence, by adding a new sentence to read: "Any recommendation for legislative action shall be accompanied by the cost to the State and to any affected municipalities that would be necessary to support the recommendation."

Third: In Sec. 1, in subsection (g) (reimbursement), at the end of the sentence after "2 V.S.A. § 406," by inserting "for no more than five meetings, unless prior approval for additional meetings is given by the Speaker of the House and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate"

(Committee Vote: 9-2-0)

Amendment to be offered by Reps. Hubert of Milton, Cole of Burlington, Consejo of Sheldon, Devereux of Mount Holly, Evans of Essex, Higley of Lowell, Lewis of Berlin, Martin of Wolcott, Mook of Bennington, Sweaney of Windsor, and Townsend of South Burlington to the recommendation of amendment of the Committee on Government Operations to H. 585

be amended in Sec. 1 (legislative study; law enforcement structure in the State), in subsection (c) (powers and duties), by striking out subdivisions (8) and (9) in their entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

(8) the role of the Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council and the Vermont Police Academy;

(9) whether to allow full-time deputy sheriffs employed by a county that has opted in to the Vermont State Employees Retirement System under 24 V.S.A. § 290(a) to be considered an "employee" of that System under 3 V.S.A. § 455;

(10) whether there should be created within the State Police the position of Cold Case Investigator; and

(11) any other issues identified in the latest Law Enforcement Advisory Board report.

H. 790

An act relating to Reach Up eligibility

Rep. Trieber of Rockingham, 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:

Sec. 1. 33 V.S.A. § 1103 is amended to read:

§ 1103. ELIGIBILITY AND BENEFIT LEVELS

(a) Financial assistance shall be given for the benefit of a dependent child to the relative or caretaker with whom the child is living unless otherwise provided. The amount of financial assistance to which an eligible person is entitled shall be determined with due regard to the income, resources, and maintenance available to that person and, as far as funds are available, shall

provide that person a reasonable subsistence compatible with decency and health. The Commissioner may fix by regulation maximum amounts of financial assistance, and act to ~~insure~~ ensure that the expenditures for the programs shall not exceed appropriations for them consistent with section 101 of this title. In no case may the Department expend State funds in excess of the appropriations for the programs under this chapter.

* * *

(c) The Commissioner shall adopt rules for the determination of eligibility for the Reach Up program and benefit levels for all participating families that include the following provisions:

(1) No less than the first ~~$200.00~~ $300.00 per month of earnings from an unsubsidized job and ~~25~~ 50 percent of the remaining unsubsidized earnings shall be disregarded in determining the amount of the family's financial assistance grant. The family shall receive the difference between countable income and the Reach Up payment standard in a partial financial assistance grant.

* * *

(5) ~~The~~ Up to $5,000.00 of the value of assets accumulated from the earnings of adults and children in participating families and ~~from~~ the value of any federal or Vermont earned income tax credit shall be excluded for purposes of determining continuing eligibility for the Reach Up program. ~~The asset limitation shall be increased from $1,000.00 to $2,000.00 for participating families for the purposes of determining continuing eligibility for the Reach Up program.~~

* * *

Sec. 2. 33 V.S.A. § 1107(a) is amended to read:

(a)(1) The Commissioner shall provide all Reach Up services to participating families through a case management model informed by knowledge of the family's home, community, employment, and available resources. Services may be delivered in the district office, the family's home, or community in a way that facilitates progress toward accomplishment of the family development plan. Case management may be provided to other eligible families. The case manager, with the full involvement of the family, shall recommend, and the Commissioner shall modify as necessary a family development plan established under the Reach First or Reach Up program for each participating family, with a right of appeal as provided by section 1132 of this title. A case manager shall be assigned to each participating family as soon as the family begins to receive financial assistance. If administratively

feasible and appropriate, the case manager shall be the same case manager the family was assigned in the Reach First program. The applicant for or recipient of financial assistance~~,~~ under this chapter~~,~~ shall have the burden of demonstrating the existence of his or her condition.

(2) In addition to the services provided pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, the Commissioner shall provide for a mandatory case review for each participating family with a program director or the program director's designee when the family reaches 18 and 36 months of enrollment, respectively, in the Reach Up program to assess whether the participating family:

(A) is in compliance with a family development plan or work requirement;

(B) is properly claiming a deferment, if applicable; ~~and~~

(C) has any unaddressed barriers to self-sufficiency and, if so, how those barriers may be better addressed by the Department for Children and Families or other State programs; and

(D) has additional opportunities to achieve earned income through the program without a corresponding loss of benefits.

(3) The case manager shall meet with each participating family following any statutory or rule changes affecting the amount of the earned income disregard, asset limitations, or other eligibility or benefit criteria in the Reach Up program to inform the family of the changes and advise the family about ways to maximize the opportunities to achieve earned income without a corresponding loss of benefits.

Sec. 3. 33 V.S.A. § 1204 is amended to read:

§ 1204. FOOD ASSISTANCE

(a) An eligible family shall receive monthly food assistance equal to ~~$100.00~~ $50.00 to be applied to the family's electronic benefit transfer (EBT) food account ~~for the first six months after the family has become eligible for Reach Ahead. For the seventh through 12th months, the family shall receive a monthly food assistance of $50.00~~ while the family is eligible for Reach Ahead.

* * *

Sec. 4. RULEMAKING; OFFSET FOR EARNED INCOME DISREGARD

(a) In order to effect the increased earned income disregard established by this act and to make its impact fiscally neutral, the Commissioner for Children and Families shall amend the rules governing the Reach Up program pursuant to 3 V.S.A. chapter 25 to authorize the Department to:

(1) calculate an annual adjustment to Reach Up grants, excluding exempt grants, that accounts for the difference between an earned income disregard of the first $200.00 earned per month from an unsubsidized job in addition to 25 percent of the remaining unsubsidized earnings and the first $300.00 earned per month from an unsubsidized job in addition to 50 percent of the remaining unsubsidized earnings, which may be adjusted downward based on appropriated resources and projected program costs; and

(2) apply the adjustment described in subdivision (1) of this subsection to all Reach Up grants, excluding exempt grants, after need and benefit determinations are calculated.

(b) As used in this section, "exempt grants" means grants to children in the care of a person other than their parents and grants to participating families when a single parent or both parents receive Supplemental Security Income.

Sec. 5. EFFECTIVE DATES

(a) Except for Secs. 1 and 3, this act shall take effect on July 1, 2014.

(b) Except for Sec. 1(c)(1), Secs. 1 and 3 shall take effect on October 1, 2014.

(c) Sec. 1(c)(1) shall take effect on July 1, 2015.

(Committee Vote: 10-1-0)

Rep. O'Brien of Richmond, for the Committee on **Appropriations,** recommends the bill ought to pass when amended as recommended by the Committee on **Human Services.**

(Committee Vote: 11-0-0)

NOTICE CALENDAR

Favorable with Amendment

H. 239

An act relating to information regarding the rights of landlords and tenants

Rep. Weed of Enosburgh, for the Committee on **General, Housing and Military Affairs,** recommends the bill be amended as follows:

Sec. 2, the effective date, by striking out "2013" and inserting in lieu thereof 2014

(Committee Vote: 7-0-1)

Rep. Keenan of St. Albans City, for the Committee on **Appropriations,** recommends the bill ought to pass when amended as recommended by the Committee on **General, Housing and Military Affairs** and when further amended as follows:

Sec. 2, by striking out the section in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 2. APPROPRIATION

Up to $32,000.00 in General Funds is appropriated to the Department of Housing and Community Development to fund the outreach and information program created in Sec. 1 of this act.

Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2014.

(Committee Vote: 10-1-0)

H. 740

An act relating to transportation improvement fees

Rep. McCarthy of St. Albans City, for the Committee on **Transportation,** recommends the bill be amended by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. FINDINGS AND INTENT

(a) The General Assembly finds that:

(1) To issue a land use permit under 10 V.S.A. chapter 151 (Act 250), a District Commission must make required findings, including that the proposed development and subdivision does not cause unreasonable traffic congestion or unsafe traffic conditions and does not materially interfere with or jeopardize the function, safety, and efficiency of Vermont's public highway and transportation systems.

(2) To ensure that the development or subdivision meets the statutory requirements related to transportation impacts, District Commissions often require physical improvements or other measures to mitigate those impacts.

(3) Because the District Commissions address mitigation on a case-by-case basis, the obligation to mitigate transportation impacts often falls on the development or subdivision whose traffic impacts cause existing traffic conditions to become unsafe or unreasonably congested.

(4) This approach, often referred to as "last-one-in," can require an applicant to bear the entire burden of installing mitigation measures that

benefit not only the applicant's project, but existing and future developments or subdivisions, as well as regional and statewide through traffic. The potential for this outcome is high in areas that are already developed and experiencing significant traffic volumes.

(5) Physical improvements to mitigate transportation impacts can be costly and exceed the cost of a proposed development and subdivision, particularly if the proposal is a small project in an already developed area.

(b) In enacting this legislation, the General Assembly intends:

(1) to establish an alternative to the "last-one-in" approach that enables the costs to mitigate transportation impacts to be allocated proportionally among the State and the land use projects that have traffic impact and that will benefit from the mitigation;

(2) to foster in-fill development, further Vermont's planning goals set forth in 24 V.S.A § 4302, and encourage economic growth by creating a mechanism to apportion the cost of new transportation infrastructure in already developed areas; and

(3) to encourage planning for the establishment of transportation improvement districts in which the costs of transportation infrastructure are allocated proportionally and thereby to support economic growth, the construction of needed transportation improvements, and Vermont's planning goals.

Sec. 2. 10 V.S.A. chapter 151, subchapter 5 is added to read:

Subchapter 5. Transportation Impact Fees

§ 6101. PURPOSE

The purpose of this subchapter is to provide a mechanism to allocate the costs to mitigate the impacts of land use projects to the transportation system in a manner that is equitable and that supports the planning goals of 24 V.S.A. § 4302.

§ 6102. DEFINITIONS

As used in this subchapter:

(1) "Agency" means the Agency of Transportation.

(2) "Capacity" means each of the following:

(A) the number of vehicles per hour accommodated by transportation infrastructure;

(B) the ability of transportation infrastructure to provide connectivity

for pedestrians and cyclists; and

(C) the number of people that can be accommodated by bus at levels of service specified for each mode of travel.

(3) "Capital Transportation Program" means the multiyear transportation program under 19 V.S.A § 10g as established each year by the General Assembly.

(4) "Capital transportation project" means:

(A) a physical improvement to the State transportation system or to a municipal highway, right-of-way, or transportation facility; and

(B) a study or survey requested or commissioned by a District Commission or the Agency relating to any physical improvement of one or more of the following:

(i) the State transportation system; and

(ii) a municipal highway, right-of-way, or transportation improvement or facility.

(5) "District Commission" shall have the same meaning as under section 6001 of this title except that the term also shall include the Board in exercising its authority to make findings of fact and conclusions of law.

(6) "Land use project" means any activity requiring a permit under this chapter or 19 V.S.A. § 1111.

(7) "Municipality" means a city, town, incorporated village or unorganized town or gore.

(8) "Pass-by trips" means traffic that is present on a roadway adjacent to a land use project for reasons other than accessing the project and that enters the project.

(9) "Regional planning commission" shall have the same meaning as under 24 V.S.A. § 4303.

(10) "Secretary" means the Secretary of Transportation or designee.

(11) "State transportation system" means the highways, rights-of-way, and transportation facilities under the jurisdiction of the Agency or any other agency of the State and does not include highways, rights-of-way, and transportation facilities under the jurisdiction of a municipality.

(12) "Transportation Demand Management " or "TDM" means measures that reduce vehicle trips or redistribute vehicle trips to non-peak times or other areas. Examples include telecommuting, incentives to carpool

or ride public transit, and staggered work shifts.

(13) "Transportation impact fee" means a fee that is assessed to a land use project as a condition of a permit issued under this chapter or a State highway access permit under 19 V.S.A. § 1111 and is used to support any portion of the costs of a completed or planned capital transportation project that will benefit or is attributable to the land use project.

(14) "Transportation Improvement District" or "TID" means a discrete geographic area that includes and will benefit from one or more capital transportation projects included in the Capital Transportation Program and for which the Agency has established a transportation impact fee under this subchapter.

(15) "Vehicle trips" means the number of trips by motorized conveyance generated by a proposed land use project measured at a specific place and for a specific duration. The ownership of and number of persons within the conveyance shall be irrelevant.

§ 6103. AUTHORITY

A District Commission or the Agency may assess a transportation impact fee in accordance with this subchapter.

§ 6104. TRANSPORTATION IMPACT FEE; DISTRICT COMMISSION

(a) A District Commission may require payment of a transportation impact fee in accordance with section 6106 of this title to fund, in whole or in part, capital improvements that are necessary to mitigate the transportation impacts of a proposed development or subdivision or that benefit the proposed development or subdivision. The Agency shall review the application and recommend to the District Commission whether to require mitigation of the transportation impacts of the development or subdivision. The District Commission may require an applicant to pay the entire cost of a capital transportation project and may provide for reimbursement of the applicant by developments and subdivisions subsequently receiving permits or amended permits under this chapter that benefit from the capital transportation project. The period for reimbursement shall expire when the associated capital transportation project ceases to provide additional capacity.

(b) A District Commission may require an applicant for a development or subdivision within a TID to pay the transportation impact fee established by the Secretary if the Commission determines that the fee will fund, in whole or in part, improvements to mitigate transportation impacts of the development or subdivision.

(c) The authority granted to the District Commissions under this subchapter

is in addition to their other authority.

§ 6105. TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT AND FEE; AGENCY OF TRANSPORTATION

(a) The Secretary may establish a TID and transportation impact fee in accordance with this section and section 6106 of this title if one or more capital transportation projects in the most recent Capital Transportation Program will provide capacity that benefits one or more future land use projects within a discrete geographic area or will provide capacity for future land use projects identified by a regional planning commission or municipality within a discrete geographic area.

(b) To establish a TID and transportation impact fee, the Secretary shall cause the Agency to issue a proposed TID and transportation impact fee.

(1) In preparing the proposal, the Agency shall consult with each regional planning commission, municipality, and the public in which the TID will be located on the geographic extent of the TID, the land use assumptions to be used, the performance standards and the consistency of the proposal with each applicable municipal and regional plan.

(2) The Agency shall prepare a transportation infrastructure plan for the capital transportation project that identifies highway, transit, bicycle, and pedestrian infrastructure needs of a proposed TID. The Agency's proposal shall identify the recommended geographic extent of the TID, the proposed performance standards within the TID, and the proposed transportation impact fee in accordance with section 6106 of this title.

(A) The infrastructure plan shall follow generally accepted planning and engineering standards.

(B) The performance standard for a TID shall be suitable for the area in which the TID is located.

(C) The proposed fee shall reflect a rational nexus between the needs that the transportation infrastructure plan is designed to meet and the benefits that will be provided or the impacts attributable to the proposed land use projects to which the fee will be assessed and shall be roughly proportional to those benefits or impacts.

(3) On issuance of the proposal, the Agency shall provide notice of a public hearing on the proposal before the Secretary. The notice shall include the date and location of the hearing, a description of the TID including the capital transportation project or projects, the TID's geographic extent, and the proposed transportation impact fee. The Agency shall provide the notice to each property owner within the TID, the municipal legislative body and

municipal and regional planning commissions for the area in which the TID is located, and shall publish the notice on its web page and in a newspaper of general circulation in the geographic area of the TID. The date of the public hearing shall be not less than 30 days after issuance and publication of the notice.

(4) The Secretary shall hold a public hearing and take testimony on the Agency's proposal. The Secretary shall provide an opportunity for members of the public and affected property owners to testify.

(5) After completing the public hearing, the Secretary may approve, approve with revisions, or deny the Agency's proposal. The Secretary's approval shall establish the proposed TID and transportation impact fee, with any revisions required by the Secretary.

(c) The Secretary shall consider the following to establish the boundaries of a TID:

(1) the existing and planned pattern of development as set forth in the municipal or regional plans;

(2) the future land use projects to be served by the capital transportation projects that the TID will fund; and

(3) each land use project having transportation impacts that are mitigated by a capital transportation project to serve the TID.

(d) The Agency may assess a transportation impact fee to each land use project within a TID for which a State highway access permit is required under 19 V.S.A. § 1111. This subsection shall not apply to a development or subdivision requiring a permit under section 6081 of this title.

(e) The TID and transportation impact fee shall expire after the Secretary determines that the associated capital transportation project or projects no longer meet the approved performance standards.

§ 6106. TRANSPORTATION IMPACT FEE; FORMULA

(a) When assessing a transportation impact fee to a land use project, the Secretary shall apply a formula that reflects the performance standards for the TID, and the District Commission shall apply a formula that reflects those performance standards or the mitigation that the Commission determines is required to address the transportation impacts of the development or subdivision. In either case, the formula shall account for each of the following:

(1) the vehicle trips generated by the land use project estimated pursuant to a generally accepted methodology;

(2) the capital costs of highway infrastructure, pedestrian and bicycle

facilities, public transportation, and other transportation infrastructure that benefit or mitigate the transportation impacts of the land use project;

(3) conditions not attributable to the transportation impacts of the land use project including forecasted growth in background traffic and existing infrastructure and capacity deficiencies;

(4) the proportional share of the capital costs of transportation infrastructure that provides benefit to or is attributable to the transportation impacts of the land use project and determined pursuant to a reasonably accepted methodology; and

(5) other funding sources available to finance the capital transportation project.

(b) When determining a transportation impact fee under this section for a land use project, the Secretary or the District Commission may adjust the result of the formula to account for one or more of the following:

(1) a traffic allocation, if any, set for the land use project by a prior permit;

(2) the net change in vehicle trip generation of a proposed land use project considering pass-by-trips and the amount of traffic already generated by the tract of land on which the land use project is to be located;

(3) municipal traffic impact fees paid by the applicant to the extent that those fees fund improvements on which the transportation impact fee is based;

(4) the fair market value of dedications of land, interests in land or transportation infrastructure improvements provided by the developer to mitigate offsite traffic impacts;

(5) TDM programs offered by the applicant that reduce vehicle trips; and

(6) the siting of a proposed land use project in a downtown, village center, new town center, growth center, Vermont neighborhood, or neighborhood development area designated under 24 V.S.A. chapter 76A.

(c) A transportation impact fee for one or more capital transportation projects in a TID shall not exceed the portion of the cost of each capital transportation project that is required to mitigate the transportation impacts of the land use project and shall not include costs attributable to the operation, administration, or maintenance of the capital transportation project.

(d) An applicant may choose to fund the entire cost of a capital transportation project. An applicant for a permit under this chapter who chooses to fund the entire cost of a capital transportation project may request

and the District Commission may authorize reimbursement in accordance with subsection 6104(a) of this title.

(e) In assessing a transportation impact fee to an applicant under this subchapter, the Agency or District Commission shall require the applicant to pay the transportation impact fee prior to commencement of construction of the applicant's land use project and shall not require the applicant to delay commencement of construction of that project until construction of each capital transportation project for which the fee was assessed, unless the Agency or District Commission determines that the capital transportation project must first be built to address a transportation safety issue caused or exacerbated by the land use project. If a land use project is to be constructed in stages, the Agency or District Commission may approve payment of a proportionate amount of the fee prior to commencement of construction on each stage.

§ 6107. TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT FUND

(a) There is created a special fund within the transportation fund known as the Transportation Improvement District Fund. The Agency shall deposit into the Fund each transportation impact fee it receives under this subchapter. The Agency shall administer the Fund.

(b) Balances in the Fund shall be expended only for the purposes authorized in this subchapter and shall not be used for the general obligations of government. All balances in the Fund at the end of any fiscal year shall be carried forward and remain within the Fund. Interest earned by the Fund shall be deposited in the Fund.

(c) The Agency shall provide an annual accounting to the Treasurer of each TID and associated transportation impact fee for that district showing the source, amount collected, each project that was funded or that will be funded with the fee, and the amount expended.

§ 6108. PAYMENT OF FEES

An applicant shall pay a transportation impact fee assessed under this subchapter to the Agency, except that a District Commission may direct an applicant to pay a transportation impact fee to a municipality if the impacts of the applicant's development or subdivision are limited to municipal highways and rights-of-way or other municipal transportation facilities,

§ 6109. UNSPENT FEE AMOUNTS; REFUNDS

Within 15 years from the date of payment, a fee assessed under this subchapter shall be spent on the capital transportation project or projects in the appropriate TID or on the appropriate capital transportation project for which

the fee was paid. If the Agency or municipality to which the fee was paid does not spend all or portion of the fee collected on the appropriate capital transportation project or projects, the applicant or its successors may apply to the Agency or municipality for a refund of the proportionate share of that fee within one year of the date on which the applicant's right to claim the refund accrued. The refund shall include the amount of all interest earned by the Transportation Improvement District Fund or the municipality on the amount of principal to be returned.

§ 6110. APPEALS

(a) A person aggrieved by a decision of the Secretary regarding the establishment of a TID or the transportation impact fee for the TID may appeal to the Civil Division of the Superior Court under Rule 74 of the Vermont Rules of Civil Procedure.

(b) A permit issued by the Agency under 19 V.S.A. § 1111 may be appealed in accordance with 19 V.S.A. § 5.

(c) Appeal of an act or decision of a District Commission under this subchapter shall be pursuant to section 6089 of this title.

§ 6111. RULEMAKING

The Board and the Agency may adopt rules to implement the provisions of this subchapter.

Sec. 3. 19 V.S.A. § 1111(a) is amended to read:

(a) Permits. Permits must be obtained by anyone or any corporation wishing to use as described in this section any part of the highway right-of-way on either the ~~state~~ State or town system. Notwithstanding any other statutory requirement, a permit shall be required for any use of any highway right-of-way, consistent with the provisions of this section. In issuing a permit under this section for a use of a State highway right-of-way, the Secretary may require a transportation impact fee in accordance with 10 V.S.A. chapter 151, subchapter 5. ~~The~~ Except for this transportation impact fee authority of the Secretary, the authority given to the ~~board~~ Board, the ~~secretary~~ Secretary, and the ~~attorney general~~ Attorney General under this section shall also apply to the legislative bodies of towns, or their designees.

Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2014.

and that after passage the title of the bill be amended to read: "An act relating to transportation impact fees"

(Committee Vote: 10-0-1)

H. 880

An act relating to universal college savings accounts.

(Rep. Krowinski of Burlington will speak for the Committee on **Human Services.)**

Rep. Miller of Shaftsbury, for the Committee on **Appropriations,** recommends the bill be amended as follows::

Sec. 1, in subdivision (c)(2), by inserting a new subdivision (F) after the existing subdivision (E) to read as follows:

(F) the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation;

and by renumbering the remaining subdivisions to be alphabetically correct.

(**Committee Vote 11-0-0)**

Consent Calendar

Concurrent Resolutions for Adoption Under Joint Rule 16a

The following concurrent resolutions have been introduced for approval by the Senate and House and will be adopted automatically unless a Senator or Representative requests floor consideration before today's adjournment. Requests for floor consideration in either chamber should be communicated to the Secretary's office and/or the House Clerk's office, respectively. For text of resolutions, see Addendum to House Calendar and Senate Calendar of 3/20/2014.

H.C.R. 265

House concurrent resolution celebrating the music of Vermont and designating November 2014 as Vermont Music Month

H.C.R. 266

House concurrent resolution in memory of Beverly Mae Shores of Granby

H.C.R. 267

House concurrent resolution honoring the Vermont Rail Action Network for its efforts to improve the State's rail service

H.C.R. 268

House concurrent resolution congratulating the Vermont Rail System on its 50th anniversary

H.C.R. 269

House concurrent resolution congratulating Norwich University on being ranked the second-best school nationally for cybersecurity education

H.C.R. 270

House concurrent resolution honoring the youth education program of Unbound Grace-Sentinel Farms

H.C.R. 271

House concurrent resolution congratulating Vermont's first ENERGY STAR qualified elementary and secondary schools

H.C.R. 272

House concurrent resolution honoring former Rutland Town Fire Chief Joseph J. Denardo

H.C.R. 273

House concurrent resolution in memory of Pownal Selectboard Member Dale Palmer

S.C.R. 51

Senate concurrent resolution congratulating Howard Coffin on his Gettysburg Sesquicentennial address

Information Notice

Deadline for Introducing Bills

Pursuant to Rule 40(c) during the second year of the biennium, except with the prior consent of the Committee on Rules, no committee, except the Committees on Appropriations, Ways and Means or Government Operations, may introduce a bill drafted in standard form after the last day of March (March 31, 2014). The Committees on Appropriations and Ways and Means bill may be drafted in standard form at any time, and Government Operations bills pertaining to city or town charters, may be drafted in standard form at any time.

CROSSOVER DEADLINES

The Joint Rules Committee established the following Crossover deadlines:

(1) All House bills must be reported out of the last committee of reference on or before Friday, March 14, 2014, and filed with the House Clerk's Office so that they may be placed on the Calendar for Notice the next legislative day.

(2) All House bills referred pursuant to the Committees on Appropriations and Ways and Means must be reported out by the last of those committees on or before Friday, March 21, 2014, and filed with the House Clerk's Office so that they may be placed on the Calendar for Notice the next legislative day.