Senate Calendar

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 08, 2014

SENATE CONVENES AT: 1:30 P.M.

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ORDERS OF THE DAY

ORDERED TO LIE

S. 55.

An act relating to increasing efficiency in state government finance and lending operations.

PENDING ACTION: Second reading of the bill.

S. 165.

An act relating to collective bargaining for deputy state's attorneys.

PENDING ACTION: Third reading of the bill.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Wednesday, January 8, 2014 - Room 11 - 6:00 - 8:00 P.M. - Re: Lake Shoreland Protection - Lake Shoreland Protection Commission.

Thursday, January 9, 2014 – Room 11 - 2:30 P.M. – Re: FY 2014 Governor's Proposed Budget Adjustment - House Committee on Appropriations.

REPORTS ON FILE

Reports 2014

Pursuant to the provisions of 2 V.S.A. §20(c), one (1) hard copy of the following report is on file in the office of the Secretary of the Senate. Effective January 2010, pursuant to Act No. 192, Adj. Sess. (2008) §5.005(g) some reports will automatically be sent by electronic copy only and can be found on the State of Vermont Legislative webpage.

1. Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment; Report. (Vermont National Guard) (November 2013)

NOTICE OF JOINT ASSEMBLY

January 8, 2014 - 2:00 p.m. – House Chamber – State-of-the-State Address by the Honorable Peter E. Shumlin, Governor of the State of Vermont.

January 15, 2014 - 2:00 p.m. – House Chamber – Budget Address by the Honorable Peter E. Shumlin, Governor of the State of Vermont.

JFO NOTICE

INFORMATION NOTICE

The Joint Fiscal Committee recently received the following items:

JFO #2661 – Request to establish one (1) limited service position in the Department of Fish and Wildlife. This position will support the Vermont Hunter Education Program, a hunter education, hunter development, and firearm and archery safety effort. Job duties will include management of dayto-day operations of Department-owned shooting ranges and coordination of the Department's shooting range safety team. The Department receives \$80,000 of authorized funding annually from the US Fish and Wildlife Service for hunter education enhancement. In the past, this funding was passed through to shooting range clubs for shooting range improvements. Due to the increased volume of anticipated Department shooting range projects and maintenance in the near future, the Department will shift the federal funds from sub-grant work to a limited service position.

JFO #2662 – Request to establish a 3% fee for credit card payment of tax bills to the Vermont Department of Taxes. This fee is proposed to sunset in two years. This request applies to credit card payments only. Taxpayers retain the ability to pay tax bills without additional fees by paying with cash, check, or electronic check (ACH). The proposed 3% fee will replace the existing fee structure (no fee for payments below \$200, 2% for payments of at least \$200) which is administratively burdensome and has results in taxpayers using a loophole to avoid payment of the fee (by submitting multiple payments of \$199).

JFO #2663 – Request to establish a 3% fee for over-the-counter credit card payment of DMV fees at DMV branch offices. This fee will replace the 2.5% fee currently applied to this type of payment. This request applies to credit card payments only. Customers retain the ability to pay bills without additional fees by paying with cash or check. The existing 2.5% fee was adopted in 2009 with the expectation that it could be increased after an initial period of evaluation.