

**SIDE-BY-SIDE COMPARISON OF S.220 - HOUSE AND SENATE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BILLS  
Conference Committee Proposals**

<u>Proposal</u>	<u>First Proposal of the Conference Committee on the Part of the House UPDATED (5/8/14 @ 4:30 pm)</u>	<u>First Proposal of the Conference Committee on the Part of the Senate (5/8/14 @ 7:30 am)</u>
<b>One Stop Shop Web Portal</b>	<p>Sec. 1. ONE-STOP SHOP WEB PORTAL</p> <p><u>(a) Purpose. The State of Vermont seeks to simplify and expedite the process for business creation and growth by providing:</u></p> <p><u>(1) a clear guide to resources and technical assistance for all phases of business development;</u></p> <p><u>(2) a directory of financial assistance, including grants, funding capital, tax credits, and incentives;</u></p> <p><u>(3) a directory of workforce development assistance, including recruiting, job postings, and training;</u></p> <p><u>(4) a link to centralized business services available from the Secretary of State, the Department of Labor, the Department of Taxes, and others; and</u></p> <p><u>(5) agency contacts and links for available services and resources.</u></p> <p><u>(b) Administration. On or before June 30, 2015, the Secretary of State, Department of Taxes, Department of Labor, the Vermont Attorney General, the Agency of Commerce and Community Development, and the Agency of Administration shall coordinate with other relevant agencies and departments within State government and outside partners, including regional development corporations, regional planning commissions, and small business development centers, to provide comprehensive business services, regional coaching teams, print materials, other outreach, and a “One-Stop Shop” website, consistent with the following timeline:</u></p> <p><u>(1) Phase 1. Complete necessary partner outreach and collaboration and an inventory of existing websites, determine the appropriate content to</u></p>	<p>Sec. 1. ONE STOP SHOP WEB PORTAL</p> <p><u>(a) In order to simplify the process for business creation and growth, the Office of the Secretary of State, Department of Taxes, Department of Labor, the Vermont Attorney General, the Agency of Commerce and Community Development, and the Agency of Administration have formed a Business Portal Committee to create an online “one-stop shop” for business registration, business entity creation, and registration compliance.</u></p> <p><u>(b) On or before January 15, 2015, the Business Portal Committee shall report to the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs and the House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development to inform the committees of the status of the project and a timeline for its completion.</u></p>

	<p><del>be included on the One Stop website, and update current websites to include links to State agencies and departments with regulatory oversight and authority over Vermont businesses.</del></p> <p><del>(2) Phase 2. Edit and organize the content to be included on the One Stop website.</del></p> <p><del>(3) Phase 3. Complete the design and mapping of the One Stop website.</del></p> <p><del>(4) Phase 4. Complete a communications and outreach plan with a final funding proposal for the project.</del></p> <p><del>(b) (c) On or before January 15, 2015, the Secretary of State and partners shall report to the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs and the House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development to inform the committees of the status of the project and a timeline for its completion.</del></p>	
<p><b>Vermont Enterprise Fund</b></p>	<p>Sec. 2. VERMONT ENTERPRISE FUND</p> <p><u>(a) There is created a Vermont Enterprise Fund, the sums of which may be used by the Governor, with the approval of the Emergency Board, for the purpose of making economic and financial resources available to businesses facing circumstances that necessitate State government support and response more rapidly than would otherwise be available from, or that would be in addition to, other economic incentives.</u></p> <p><u>(b)(1) The Fund shall be administered by the Commissioner of Finance and Management as a special fund under the provisions of chapter 7, subchapter 5 of this title.</u></p> <p><u>(2) The Fund shall contain any amounts transferred or appropriated to it by the General Assembly.</u></p> <p><u>(3) Interest earned on the Fund and any balance remaining at the end of the fiscal year shall remain in the Fund.</u></p> <p><u>(4) The Commissioner shall maintain records that indicate the amount of money in the Fund at any given time.</u></p> <p><u>(c) The Governor is authorized to use amounts available in the Fund to</u></p>	<p>No provision</p>

offer economic and financial resources to an eligible business pursuant to this section, subject to approval by the Emergency Board as provided in subsection (e) of this section.

(d) To be eligible for an investment through the Fund, the Governor shall determine that a business:

(1) adequately demonstrates:

(A) a substantial statewide or regional economic or employment impact; or

(B) approval or eligibility for other economic development incentives and programs offered by the State of Vermont; and

(2) is experiencing one or more of the following circumstances:

(A) a merger or acquisition may cause the closing of all or a portion of a Vermont business, or closure or relocation outside Vermont will cause the loss of employment in Vermont;

(B) a prospective purchaser is considering the acquisition of an existing business in Vermont;

(C) an existing employer in Vermont, which is a division or subsidiary of a multistate or multinational company, may be closed or have its employment significantly reduced; or

(D) is considering Vermont for relocation or expansion.

(e)(1) Any economic and financial resources offered by the Governor under this section must be approved by the Emergency Board before an eligible business may receive assistance from the Fund.

(2) The Board shall invite the Chair of the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs and the Chair of the House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development to participate in Board deliberations under this section in an advisory capacity.

(3) The Governor or designee, shall present to the Emergency Board for its approval:

(A) information on the company;

(B) the circumstances supporting the offer of economic and financial resources;

	<p><u>(C) a summary of the economic activity proposed or that would be forgone;</u></p> <p><u>(D) other State incentives and programs offered or involved;</u></p> <p><u>(E) the economic and financial resources offered by the Governor requiring use of monies from the Fund;</u></p> <p><u>(F) employment, investment, and economic impact of Fund support on the employer, including a fiscal cost-benefit analysis; and</u></p> <p><u>(G) terms and conditions of the economic and financial resources offered, including:</u></p> <p><u>(i) the total dollar amount and form of the economic and financial resources offered;</u></p> <p><u>(ii) employment creation, employment retention, and capital investment performance requirements; and</u></p> <p><u>(iii) disallowance and recapture provisions.</u></p> <p><u>(4) The Emergency Board shall have the authority to approve, disapprove, or modify an offer of economic and financial resources in its discretion, including consideration of the following:</u></p> <p><u>(A) whether the business has presented sufficient documentation to demonstrate compliance with subsection (d) of this section;</u></p> <p><u>(B) whether the Governor has presented sufficient information to the Board under subdivision (3) of this subsection (e);</u></p> <p><u>(C) whether the business has received other State resources and incentives, and if so, the type and amount; and</u></p> <p><u>(D) whether the business and the Governor have made available to the Board sufficient information and documentation for the Auditor of Accounts to perform an adequate performance audit of the program, including the extent to which necessary information or documentation is or will be withheld under a claim that it is confidential, proprietary, or subject to executive privilege.</u></p> <p><u>(f)(1) Proprietary business information and materials or other confidential financial information submitted by a business to the State, or submitted by the Governor to the Emergency Board, for the purpose of negotiating or approving economic and financial resources under this</u></p>	
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	<p><u>section shall not be subject to public disclosure under the State’s public records law in 1 V.S.A. chapter 5, but shall be available to the Joint Fiscal Office or its agent upon authorization of the Chair of the Joint Fiscal Committee, and shall also be available to the Auditor of Accounts in connection with the performance of duties under 32 V.S.A. § 163 of this title; provided, however, that the Joint Fiscal Office or its agent and the Auditor of Accounts shall not disclose, directly or indirectly, to any person any proprietary business or other confidential information or any information which would identify a business except in accordance with a judicial order or as otherwise specifically provided by law.</u></p> <p><u>(2) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prohibit the publication of statistical information, rulings, determinations, reports, opinions, policies, or other information so long as the data are disclosed in a form that cannot identify or be associated with a particular business.</u></p> <p><u>(g) On or before January 15 of each year following a year in which economic and financial resources were made available pursuant to this section, the Secretary of Commerce and Community Development shall submit to the House Committees on Commerce and Economic Development and on Ways and Means and to the Senate Committees on Finance and on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs a report on the resources made available pursuant to this section, including:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>(1) the name of the recipient;</u></li> <li><u>(2) the amount and type of the resources;</u></li> <li><u>(3) the aggregate number of jobs created or retained as a result of the resources;</u></li> <li><u>(4) a statement of costs and benefits to the State; and</u></li> <li><u>(5) whether any offer of resources was disallowed or recaptured.</u></li> </ul> <p><u>(h) This section shall sunset on June 30, 2016 and any remaining balance in the Fund shall be transferred to the General Fund.</u></p>	
<p><b>Vermont Enterprise Fund FY 2014 Funding</b></p>	<p>Sec. 3. CONTINGENT FISCAL YEAR 2014 APPROPRIATION  <u>After satisfying the requirements of 32 V.S.A. § 308, and after other reserve requirements have been met and prior to any funds reserved</u></p>	<p>No provision</p>

	<p><u>pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 308c, any remaining unreserved and undesignated end of fiscal year General Fund surplus up to \$5,000,000.00 shall be appropriated to the extent available, in the following order:</u>  <u>(1) \$500,000.00 to the Vermont Economic Development Authority for loan loss reserves within the Vermont Entrepreneurial Lending Program for the purposes specified in 10 V.S.A. § 280bb;</u>  <u>(2) \$4,500,000.00 to the Vermont Enterprise Fund for the purposes specified in Sec. 2 of this act.</u></p>	
<p><b>Vermont Entrepreneurial Lending Program</b></p>	<p>Identical</p>	<p>Identical</p>
<p><b>Vermont Entrepreneurial Lending Program - Capitalization</b></p>	<p>Identical</p>	<p>Identical</p>
<p><b>Vermont Agricultural Credit Program; addition of forestry and forest products</b></p>	<p>Identical</p>	<p>Identical</p>
<p><b>Connecting Capital Providers and Entrepreneurs</b></p>	<p>Sec. 7. NETWORKING INITIATIVES  <u>(a) The Agency of Commerce and Community Development shall support networking events offered by one or more regional economic development providers designed to connect capital providers with one another or with Vermont entrepreneurs, or both, and shall take steps to facilitate outreach and matchmaking opportunities between investors and entrepreneurs.</u>  <u>(b) The Agency shall submit to the House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development and to the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs:</u>  <u><del>(1)</del> a status report on or before January December 15, 2015 concerning the structure of networking initiatives, the relevant provisions</u></p>	<p>No provision</p>

	<p><u>of governing performance contracts, and the benchmarks and measures of performance; and</u>  <u>(2) a report on or before December 15, 2015 concerning the outcomes of and further recommendations for the program.</u></p>	
<b>Downtown Tax Credits</b>	Identical	Identical
<b>Implementing State Energy Policy; Manufacturing</b>	Identical	Identical
<b>Electricity Rates for Businesses</b>	Identical	Identical
<b>Domestic Export Program</b>	<p>Sec. 14. DOMESTIC MARKET ACCESS PROGRAM FOR VERMONT AGRICULTURE AND FOREST PRODUCTS</p> <p><u>(a) The Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets, in collaboration with the Agency of Commerce and Community Development and the Chief Marketing Officer, shall, subject to available funding, create a Domestic Export Program Pilot Project within the “Made in Vermont” designation program, the purpose of which shall be to:</u></p> <p><u>(1) connect Vermont producers with brokers, buyers, and distributors in other U.S. state and regional markets,</u>  <u>(2) provide technical and marketing assistance to Vermont producers to convert these connections into increased sales and sustainable commercial relationships; and</u>  <u>(3) provide one-time matching grants of up to \$2,000.00 per business to attend trade shows and similar events to expand producers’ market presence in other U.S. states, subject to available funding.</u></p>	<p>Sec. 13. DOMESTIC MARKET ACCESS PROGRAM FOR VERMONT AGRICULTURE AND FOREST PRODUCTS</p> <p><u>The Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets, in collaboration with the Agency of Commerce and Community Development and the Chief Marketing Officer, may create a Domestic Export Program Pilot Project within the “Made in Vermont” designation program, the purpose of which shall be to connect Vermont producers with brokers, buyers, and distributors in other U.S. state and regional markets, and to provide technical and marketing assistance to Vermont producers to convert these connections into increased sales and sustainable commercial relationships.</u></p>

	<u>(b) The Secretary shall collect data on the activities and outcomes of the pilot project authorized under this section and shall report his or her findings and recommendations for further action on or before January 15, 2015, to the House Committees on Agriculture and on Commerce and Economic Development and to the Senate Committees on Agriculture and on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs.</u>	
<b>Penalties for Computer Crimes</b>	Identical	Identical
<b>Statute of Limitations for Misappropriation of Trade Secrets</b>	<p>Sec. 16. 12 V.S.A. § 523 is amended to read:  § 523. TRADE SECRETS</p> <p>An action for misappropriation of trade secrets under <u>9 V.S.A.</u> chapter 143 of <del>Title 9</del> shall be commenced within <u>three</u> years after the cause of action accrues, and not after. The cause of action shall be deemed to accrue as of the date the misappropriation was discovered or reasonably should have been discovered.</p>	<p>Sec. 15. 12 V.S.A. § 523 is amended to read:  § 523. TRADE SECRETS</p> <p>An action for misappropriation of trade secrets under <u>9 V.S.A.</u> chapter 143 of <del>Title 9</del> shall be commenced <u>within three six years</u> after the cause of action accrues, and not after. The cause of action shall be deemed to accrue as of the date the misappropriation was discovered or reasonably should have been discovered.</p>
<b>Protection of Trade Secrets</b>	Identical	Identical
<b>State Contracting; Intellectual Property, Etc.</b>	<p>Sec. 18. 3 V.S.A. § 346 is added to read:  <u>§ 346. STATE CONTRACTING; INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY, SOFTWARE DESIGN, AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY</u></p> <p><u>(a) The Secretary of Administration shall include in Administrative Bulletin 3.5 a policy direction applicable to State procurement contracts that include services for the development of software applications, computer coding, or other intellectual property, which would allow the State of Vermont to grant permission to the contractor to use or own the intellectual property created under the contract for the contractor's commercial purposes.</u></p> <p><u>(b) The Secretary may recommend contract provisions that authorize the State to negotiate with a contractor to secure license terms and license fees, royalty rights, or other payment mechanism for the contractor's commercial use of intellectual property developed under a State contract.</u></p>	<p>Sec. 17. 3 V.S.A. § 346 is added to read:  <u>§ 346. STATE CONTRACTING; INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY, SOFTWARE DESIGN, AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY</u></p> <p><u>(a) The Secretary of Administration shall include in Administrative Bulletin 3.5 a policy direction applicable to State procurement contracts that include services for the development of software applications, computer coding, or other intellectual property, which would allow the State of Vermont to grant permission to the contractor to use or own the intellectual property created under the contract for the contractor's commercial purposes.</u></p> <p><u>(b) The Secretary may recommend contract provisions that authorize the State to negotiate with a contractor to secure license terms and license fees, royalty rights, or other payment mechanism for the contractor's commercial use of intellectual property developed under a State contract.</u></p>



	<u>(c) If the Secretary authorizes a contractor to own intellectual property developed under a State contract, the Secretary <b>may</b> recommend language to ensure the State retains a perpetual, irrevocable, royalty-free, and fully paid right to continue to use the intellectual property.</u>	<u>(c) If the Secretary authorizes a contractor to own intellectual property developed under a State contract, the Secretary <b>shall</b> recommend language to ensure the State retains a perpetual, irrevocable, royalty-free, and fully paid right to continue to use the intellectual property.</u>
<b>Study: Small Business Access to Capital</b>	Identical	Identical
<b>Study: Commercial Lenders</b>	Identical	Identical
<b>Unlicensed Loan Transactions</b>	Identical	Identical
<b>Telecommunications; Findings and Intent</b>	<b>No provision</b>	<b>Unchanged</b>
<b>Telecommunications; Universal Service Fund</b>	<b>No provision</b>	<b>Unchanged</b>
Telecommunications: State Telecommunications Plan; Division for Connectivity; VTA	<b>No provision</b>	<b>Unchanged</b>
Telecommunications: Conduit Standards; Public Highways	No provision	No provision
<b>Telecommunications: 248a Process</b>	<b>Unchanged</b>	<b>Unchanged</b>

<p>Administration Report; E-911; Vermont USF Fiscal Agent; Vermont Communications Board; FirstNet</p>	<p><b>No Provision</b></p>	<p><b>Unchanged</b></p>
<p><b>NEK Demographic Study</b></p>	<p>Sec. 34. JFO ACCD DEMOGRAPHIC STUDY  <u>The Agency of Commerce and Community Development, with consultation and review by the legislative economist and the Joint Fiscal Office, shall conduct an economic impact analysis, including study of demographic and infrastructure impacts associated with recently announced development projects in the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont, and shall submit its findings to the House Committee on Commerce and Community Development, the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs, and the Joint Fiscal Committee on or before December 1, 2014.</u></p>	<p>No provision</p>
<p><b>Study: Tourism Funding</b></p>	<p>Identical</p>	<p>Identical</p>
<p><b>Industrial Parks: Access to VEDA funding</b></p>	<p>Identical</p>	<p>Identical</p>
<p><b>Industrial Parks: Act 250 definition</b></p>	<p>Identical</p>	<p>Identical</p>
<p><b>Industrial Parks: NRB review of master plan policy</b></p>	<p>Identical</p>	<p>Identical</p>
<p><b>Industrial Parks: Primary agricultural</b></p>	<p>Identical</p>	<p>Identical</p>

<b>soils</b>		
<b>Affordable Housing</b>	No provision	No provision
<b>Credit Facility for Clean Energy Loan Fund</b>	Identical	Identical
<b>Licensed Lenders and MLO Licenses: Exemptions for De Minimis Lending Activity</b>	Identical	Identical

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Workforce Education and Training: Workforce Leader; coordination of programs; public engagement process; collection of data;</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Vermont Training Program Wage Eligibility</b></p>	<p><b>House provisions with modifications per Senator Bray (highlighted):</b></p> <p><u>§ 540. WORKFORCE EDUCATION AND TRAINING LEADER</u>  <u>The Commissioner of Labor shall be the leader of workforce education and training in the State, and shall have the authority and responsibility for the coordination of workforce education and training within State government, including the following duties:</u>  * * *</p> <p><u>(7) Notwithstanding any provision of State law to the contrary, and to the fullest extent allowed under federal law, the Commissioner shall ensure that in each State and State-funded workforce education and training program, the program administrator collects and reports data and outcomes at the individual level by Social Security Number or equivalent.</u>  * * *</p> <p><u>§ 541a. STATE WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD</u>  <u>(a) Board established; duties. Pursuant to the requirements of 29 U.S.C. § 2821, the Governor shall establish a State Workforce Investment Board to assist the Governor in the execution of his or her duties under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 and to assist the Commissioner of Labor as specified in section 540 of this title.</u>  <u>(b) Additional duties; planning; process. In order to inform its decision-making and to provide effective assistance under subsection (a) of this section, the Board shall:</u>  <u>(1) conduct an ongoing public engagement process throughout the State at which Vermonters have the opportunity that brings together employers and potential employees, including students, the unemployed, and incumbent employees seeking further training, to provide feedback and information concerning their workforce education and training needs; and</u>  * * *</p> <p>Sec. 42. 10 V.S.A. chapter 22 is amended to read:  CHAPTER 22. <del>EMPLOYMENT</del> <u>THE VERMONT</u></p>	<p>Sec. 19. 10 V.S.A. § 545 is added to read:  <u>§ 545. WORKFORCE EDUCATION AND TRAINING LEADER</u>  <u>(a) The Commissioner of Labor shall have the authority to designate one existing full-time position within the Department as “Workforce Education and Training Leader.”</u>  <u>(b) The Workforce Leader shall have primary authority within State government to conduct an inventory of the workforce education and training activities throughout the State both within State government agencies and departments that perform those activities and with State partners who perform those activities with State funding, and to coordinate those activities to ensure an integrated workforce education and training system throughout the State.</u>  <u>(c) In conducting the inventory pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, the Workforce Leader shall design and implement a stakeholder engagement process that brings together employers with potential employees, including students, the unemployed, and incumbent employees seeking further training.</u>  <u>(d) Notwithstanding any provision of State law to the contrary, and to the fullest extent allowed under federal law, the Leader shall ensure that in each State and State-funded workforce education and training program, the program administrator collects and reports individual data and outcomes at the individual level by Social Security Number or equivalent.</u></p>
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	<p style="text-align: center;">TRAINING PROGRAM</p> <p>§ 531. <del>EMPLOYMENT</del> <u>THE VERMONT TRAINING PROGRAM</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>(b) Eligibility for grant. The Secretary of Commerce and Community Development may award a grant to an employer if:</p> <p>(1) <del>the employer's new or expanded initiative will enhance employment opportunities for Vermont residents; the training is for preemployment, new employees, or incumbent employees in the methods, either singularly or in combination, relating to preemployment training, on-the-job training, upgrade training, crossover training, or specialized instruction, either on-site or through a training provider;</del></p> <p>(2) the employer provides its employees with at least three of the following:</p> <p>(A) health care benefits with 50 percent or more of the premium paid by the employer;</p> <p>(B) dental assistance;</p> <p>(C) paid vacation <del>and</del>;</p> <p><u>(D) paid holidays;</u></p> <p><del>(D)</del><u>(E)</u> child care;</p> <p><del>(E)</del><u>(F)</u> other extraordinary employee benefits;</p> <p><del>(F)</del><u>(G)</u> retirement benefits; <del>and</del></p> <p><u>(H) other paid time off, including paid sick days;</u></p> <p>(3) the training is directly related to the employment responsibilities of the trainee; <u>and</u></p> <p>(4) <u>compensation for each trainee at the completion of the training program equals or exceeds the livable wage as defined in 2 V.S.A. § 505, provided that the Secretary shall have the authority to modify this requirement if he or she determines that the employer offers compensation or benefits, the value of which exceeds the compensation and benefit assumptions in the basic needs budget and livable wage calculated pursuant to 2 V.S.A. § 505.</u></p>	<p>Sec. 52. 10 V.S.A. § 531(c)(1) is amended to read:</p> <p>(c) The employer promises as a condition of the grant to:</p> <p>(1) employ new persons at a wage which, at the completion of the training program, <del>is two times the prevailing state or federal minimum wage, whichever is greater, reduced by the value of any existing health benefit package up to a limit of 30 percent of the gross program wage, or for existing employees, to increase the wage to two times the prevailing state and federal minimum wage, whichever is greater, reduced by the value of any existing health benefit package up to a limit of 20 percent of the gross program wage, upon completion of training; provided, however, that in areas defined by the Secretary of Commerce and Community Development in which the Secretary finds that the rate of unemployment is 50 percent greater than the average for the State, the wage rate under this subsection may be set by the Secretary at a rate no less than one and one-half times the federal or state minimum wage, whichever is greater</del> <u>equals or exceeds the livable wage as defined in 2 V.S.A. § 505;</u></p>
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<p><b>Study: Internship opportunities for 15-18 year olds</b></p>	<p>Identical</p>	<p>Identical</p>
<p><b>Vermont Strong Scholars and Internship Initiative</b></p>	<p>Identical</p>	<p>Identical</p>
<p><b>Study: Vermont Products Program</b></p>	<p><b>Sec. 49. VERMONT PRODUCTS PROGRAM; STUDY; REPORT</b></p> <p>SENATE LANGUAGE → add subsection (d):</p> <p><u>(d) On or before March 15, 2015, the Agency of Commerce and Community Development shall deliver testimony to the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs and the House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development on the status of the Vermont Products Program pursuant to this section.</u></p>	<p><b>Sec. 24. VERMONT PRODUCTS PROGRAM; STUDY; REPORT</b></p> <p><u>(a) On or before September 1, 2015 2016, the Agency of Commerce and Community Development, after consulting with appropriate stakeholders, shall report to the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs and the House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development on creating a Vermont Products Program for the purpose of providing Vermont businesses with a means of promoting and marketing products and services that are manufactured, designed, engineered, or formulated in Vermont and avoiding confusion by consumers when the Vermont brand is used in marketing products or services.</u></p> <p><u>(b) The report required by this section shall describe the method, feasibility, and cost of creating a Vermont Products Program that includes the following elements:</u></p> <p><u>(1) The program shall include a licensing system that enables qualifying persons to make marketing claims concerning significant business activities occurring in Vermont, and to self-certify products and services that are manufactured, designed, engineered, or formulated in Vermont. Under this system, the Secretary shall identify and craft branding and marketing guidelines that concern whether and how qualifying products or services manufactured, designed, engineered, or formulated in Vermont can be properly claimed so as to be licensed. The licensing system shall permit an applicant to self-certify compliance with designated criteria and attest to the accuracy of claims authorized by the Secretary in order to obtain a license to advertise and promote a product or service using the licensed materials.</u></p> <p><u>(2) The program may charge an annual fee for the issuance of the license.</u></p> <p><u>(3) The program shall include an on-line application process that permits an</u></p>

		<p>applicant to obtain the license if he or she certifies compliance with criteria designated by the Secretary, attests to the accuracy of statements designated by the Secretary, and pays the required fee.</p> <p>(4) Licenses issued under the program shall include a provision requiring that disputes regarding the license be resolved by alternative dispute resolution. A person who objects to the issuance of a license may file a complaint with the Secretary, who shall refer it for alternative dispute resolution as provided in the license.</p> <p>(5) A special fund, comprising license fees and any monies appropriated by the General Assembly, may be created for the administration and advertising of the program.</p> <p>(c) The report required by this section shall include a recommendation as to whether the Vermont Products Program should replace the rules regarding Vermont Origin adopted by the Attorney General.</p>
<p><b>Vermont Treasurer: Credit Facility for Local Investments</b></p>	<p>Identical</p>	<p>Identical</p>
<p><b>Vermont Treasurer; Local Investment Advisory Committee</b></p>	<p>Sec. 24. TREASURER'S LOCAL INVESTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE; REPORT</p> <p><del>(a) Creation of committee. The Treasurer's Local Investment Advisory Committee is established to:</del></p> <p><del>(1) advise the Treasurer on funding priorities for credit facilities authorized by current law; and</del></p> <p><del>(2) address other mechanisms to increase local investment.</del></p> <p><del>(b) Membership.</del></p> <p><del>(1) The Committee shall be composed of the following members:</del></p> <p><del>(A) the State Treasurer or designee, who shall serve as Chair of the Committee;</del></p> <p><del>(B) the Commissioner of Financial Regulation or designee;</del></p> <p><del>(C) the Secretary of Commerce and Community Development or designee;</del></p> <p><del>(D) a senior officer of a Vermont bank, who shall be appointed by the Governor;</del></p>	<p>Sec. 26. TREASURER'S LOCAL INVESTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE; REPORT</p> <p>(a) Creation of committee. The Treasurer's Local Investment Advisory Committee (Advisory Committee) is established to advise the Treasurer on funding priorities and address other mechanisms to increase local investment.</p> <p>(b) Membership.</p> <p>(1) The Advisory Committee shall be composed of six members as follows:</p> <p>(A) the State Treasurer or designee;</p> <p>(B) the Chief Executive Officer of the Vermont Economic Development Authority or designee;</p> <p>(C) the Chief Executive Officer of the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation or designee;</p> <p>(D) the Executive Director of the Vermont Housing Finance Agency or designee;</p> <p>(E) the Director of the Municipal Bond Bank or designee; and</p> <p>(F) the Director of Efficiency Vermont or designee.</p>

	<p><del>(E) a member of the public, who shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House;</del></p> <p><del>(F) a member of the public, who shall be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate;</del></p> <p><del>(G) the executive director of a Vermont nonprofit organization that, as part of its mission, directly lends or services loans or other similar obligations, who shall be appointed by the Governor; and</del></p> <p><del>(H) the manager of the Vermont Economic Development Authority or designee.</del></p> <p><del>(I) the executive director of the Vermont Housing Finance Agency or designee;</del></p> <p><del>(J) the President of the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation or designee; and</del></p> <p><del>(K) the executive director of the Vermont Municipal Bond Bank or designee.</del></p> <p><del>(2) The State Treasurer shall be the Chair of the Advisory Committee and shall appoint a vice chair and secretary. The appointed members of the Advisory Committee shall be appointed for terms of six years and shall serve until their successors are appointed and qualified.</del></p> <p><del>(c) Powers and duties. The Advisory Committee shall:</del></p> <p><del>(1) meet regularly to review and make recommendations to the State Treasurer on funding priorities and using other mechanisms to increase local investment in the State of Vermont;</del></p> <p><del>(2) invite regularly State organizations and citizens groups to Advisory Committee meetings to present information on needs for local investment, capital gaps, and proposals for financing; and</del></p> <p><del>(3) consult with constituents and review feedback on changes and needs in the local and State investment and financing environments.</del></p>	<p>(2) The State Treasurer shall be the Chair of the Advisory Committee and shall appoint a vice chair and secretary. The appointed members of the Advisory Committee shall be appointed for terms of six years and shall serve until their successors are appointed and qualified.</p> <p>(c) Powers and duties. The Advisory Committee shall:</p> <p>(1) meet regularly to review and make recommendations to the State Treasurer on funding priorities and using other mechanisms to increase local investment in the State of Vermont;</p> <p>(2) invite regularly State organizations, citizens groups, and members of the public to Advisory Committee meetings to present information on needs for local investment, capital gaps, and proposals for financing; and</p> <p>(3) consult with constituents and review feedback on changes and needs in the local and State investment and financing environments.</p>
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	<p><u>(d) Meetings.</u>  <u>(1) Meetings of the Advisory Committee shall occur at the call of the Treasurer.</u>  <u>(2) A majority of the members of the Advisory Committee who are physically present at the same location or available electronically shall constitute a quorum, and a member may participate and vote electronically.</u>  <u>(3) To be effective action of the Advisory Committee shall be taken by majority vote of the members at a meeting in which a quorum is present.</u></p> <p><u>(e) Report. On or before January 15, 2015, and annually thereafter, the Advisory Committee shall submit a report to the Senate Committees on Appropriations, on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs, on Finance, and on Government Operations and the House Committees on Appropriations, on Commerce and Economic Development, on Ways and Means, and on Government Operations. The report shall include the following:</u>  <u>(1) the amount of the subsidies associated with lending through each credit facility authorized by the General Assembly and established by the Treasurer;</u>  <u>(2) a description of the Advisory Committee’s activities; and</u>  <u>(3) any information gathered by the Advisory Committee on the State’s unmet capital needs, and other opportunities for State support for local investment and the community.</u></p> <p>Sec. 25. SUNSET  <u>Secs. 23-24 of this Act shall be repealed on July 1, 2015.</u></p>	<p><del><u>(d) Meetings. The Advisory Committee shall meet no more than six times per calendar year. The meetings shall be convened by the State Treasurer.</u></del></p> <p><u>(e) Report. On or before January 15, 2015, and annually thereafter, the Advisory Committee shall submit a report to the Senate Committees on Finance and on Government Operations and the House Committees on Ways and Means and on Government Operations. The report shall include the following:</u>  <u>(1) the amount of the subsidies associated with lending through each credit facility authorized by the General Assembly and established by the Treasurer;</u>  <u>(2) a description of the Advisory Committee’s activities; and</u>  <u>(3) any information gathered by the Advisory Committee on the State’s unmet capital needs, and other opportunities for State support for local investment and the community.</u></p>
<p><b>Notice of Data Security Breach</b></p>	<p>Identical</p>	<p>Identical</p>

Form of Notice to Insurers	Identical	Identical
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Workers' Compensation</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">* * * Workers' Compensation * * *</p> <p>Sec. 50. 21 V.S.A. § 632 is amended to read:            § 632. <u>COMPENSATION TO DEPENDENTS; DEATH BENEFITS BURIAL AND FUNERAL EXPENSES</u></p> <p>If death results from the injury, the employer shall pay to the persons entitled to compensation or, if there is none, then to the personal representative of the deceased employee, <u>the actual</u> burial and funeral expenses <del>in the amount of \$5,500.00</del> <u>not to exceed \$10,000.00</u> and <u>the actual</u> expenses for out-of-state transportation of the decedent to the place of burial <del>not to exceed \$1,000.00</del> <u>\$5,000.00</u>. <u>Every two years, the Commissioner of Labor shall evaluate the average burial and funeral expenses in the State and make a recommendation to the House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development and the Senate Committee on Finance as to whether an adjustment in compensation is warranted.</u> The employer shall also pay to or for the benefit of the following persons, for the periods prescribed in section 635 of this title, a weekly compensation equal to the following percentages of the deceased employee's average weekly wages. The weekly compensation payment herein allowed shall not exceed the maximum weekly compensation or be lower than the minimum weekly compensation:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>Sec. 51. 21 V.S.A. § 639 is amended to read:            § 639. <u>DEATH, PAYMENT TO DEPENDENTS</u></p> <p>In cases of the death of a person from any cause other than the accident during the period of payments for disability or for the permanent injury, the remaining payments for disability then due or for the permanent injury shall be made to the person's dependents according to the provisions of sections 635 and 636 of this title, or if there are none, the remaining amount due, <del>but not exceeding \$5,500.00 for burial and funeral expenses</del> <u>no more than the actual burial and funeral expenses not to exceed \$10,000.00</u> and <u>the actual</u> expenses for out-of-state transportation of the</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Unchanged</b></p>

decendent to the place of burial not to exceed ~~\$1,000.00~~ \$5,000.00, shall be paid in a lump sum to the proper person. Every two years, the Commissioner of Labor shall evaluate the average burial and funeral expenses in the State and make a recommendation to the House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development and the Senate Committee on Finance as to whether an adjustment in compensation is warranted.

Sec. 52. 21 V.S.A. § 640c is added to read:

§ 640c. OPIOID USAGE DETERRENCE

(a) In support of the State's fundamental interest in ensuring the well-being of employees and employers, it is the intent of the General Assembly to protect employees from the dangers of prescription drug abuse while maintaining a balance between the employee's health and the employee's expedient return to work.

(b) As it pertains to workers' compensation claims, the Commissioner of Labor, in consultation with the Department of Health, the State Pharmacologist, the Vermont Board of Medical Practice, and the Vermont Medical Society, shall adopt rules, consistent with the best practices, governing the prescription of opioids, including patient screening and drug screening for patients prescribed opioids for chronic pain. In adopting rules, the Commissioner shall consider guidelines and standards published by the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine and other medical authorities with expertise in the treatment of chronic pain. The rules shall be consistent with the standards and guidelines provided under 18 V.S.A. § 4289 and any rules adopted by the Department of Health pursuant to 18 V.S.A § 4289.

Sec. 53. 21 V.S.A. § 641 is amended to read:

§ 641. VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

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(e)(1) In support of the State's fundamental interest in ensuring the well-being of employees and employers, it is the intent of the General Assembly that, following a workplace accident, an employee returns to work as soon as possible but remains cognizant of the limitations imposed

by his or her medical condition.

(2) The Commissioner shall adopt rules promoting development and implementation of cost-effective, early return-to-work programs.

Sec. 54. 21 V.S.A. § 643a is amended to read:

§ 643a. DISCONTINUANCE OF BENEFITS

Unless an injured worker has successfully returned to work, an employer shall first notify the employee at least seven days prior to providing a notice of discontinuance of benefits under either section 642 or 646 of this title to the Commissioner. The notice to the employee shall include a specific explanation of the basis for discontinuance, including any independent medical examination report, the claimant's right to object to the discontinuance, and the phone number and website address for the Department both the Commissioner and the employee prior to terminating benefits under either section 642 or 646 of this title. The notice notices to the employee and the Commissioner of an intention to discontinue payments shall be filed on forms prescribed by the Commissioner and shall include the date of the proposed discontinuance, the reasons for it, and, if the employee has been out of work for 90 days, a verification that the employer offered vocational rehabilitation screening and services as required under this chapter. All relevant evidence, including evidence that does not support discontinuance in the possession of the employer not already filed, shall be filed with the notice shall be provided to the injured worker. With the notice of discontinuance, the employer shall file only evidence specific to the discontinuance, including evidence that does not support the discontinuance, with the Commissioner. The liability for the payments shall continue for seven days after the notice is received by the Commissioner and the employee. If the claimant disputes the discontinuance, the claimant may file with the Commissioner an objection to the discontinuance and seek an extension of an additional seven days. The objection to the discontinuance shall be specific as to the reasons and include supporting evidence. A copy of the objection shall be provided to the employer at the time the request is made to the Commissioner. Those payments shall be made without prejudice to the employer and may be

deducted from any amounts due pursuant to section 648 of this title if the Commissioner determines that the discontinuance is warranted or if otherwise ordered by the Commissioner. Every notice shall be reviewed by the Commissioner to determine the sufficiency of the basis for the proposed discontinuance. If, after review of all the evidence in the file, the Commissioner finds that a preponderance of all the evidence in the file does not reasonably support the proposed discontinuance, the Commissioner shall order that payments continue until a hearing is held and a decision is rendered. Prior to a formal hearing, an injured worker may request reinstatement of benefits by providing additional new evidence to the Department that establishes that a preponderance of all evidence now supports the claim. If the Commissioner's decision, after a hearing, is that the employee was not entitled to any or all benefits paid between the discontinuance and the final decision, upon request of the employer, the Commissioner may order that the employee repay all benefits to which the employee was not entitled. The employer may enforce a repayment order in any court of law having jurisdiction.

Sec. 55. 21 V.S.A. § 691a is added to read:

§ 691a. POSTING OF SAFETY RECORDS

(a) In support of the State's fundamental interest in ensuring the well-being of employees and employers, it is the intent of the General Assembly to improve the safety experience in the workplace.

(b) An employer subject to the provisions of this chapter shall post a notice in the employer's place of business to advise employees of where they may review the employer's record of workplace safety, including workplace injury and illness data, in accordance with rules adopted by the Commissioner. The employer's record of workplace safety, including workplace injury and illness data, shall be available for review by employees at the employer's place of business and the Commissioner, but shall not otherwise be public information. The posting shall be in a format approved by the Commissioner. The posting may be in a format provided by the Commissioner.

Sec. 56. 21 V.S.A. § 696 is amended to read:

§ 696. CANCELLATION OF INSURANCE CONTRACTS

A policy or contract shall not be cancelled within the time ~~limited~~ specified in the policy or contract for its expiration, until at least 45 days after a notice of intention to cancel the policy or contract, on a date specified in the notice, has been filed in the office of the ~~commissioner~~ Commissioner and provided to the employer. The notice shall be filed with the Commissioner in accordance with rules adopted by the Commissioner and provided to the employer by certified mail ~~or certificate of mailing~~. The cancellation shall not affect the liability of an insurance carrier on account of an injury occurring prior to cancellation. Sec. 57. 21 V.S.A. § 697 is amended to read:

§ 697. NOTICE OF INTENT NOT TO RENEW POLICY

An insurance carrier who does not intend to renew a workers' compensation insurance policy ~~of workers' compensation insurance~~ or guarantee contract covering the liability of an employer under the provisions of this chapter, ~~45 days prior to the expiration of the policy or contract,~~ shall give notice of ~~the~~ its intention to the ~~commissioner of labor~~ Commissioner and ~~to~~ the covered employer at least 45 days prior to the expiration date stated in the policy or contract. The notice shall be given to the employer by certified mail ~~or certificate of mailing~~. An insurance carrier who fails to give notice shall continue the policy or contract in force beyond its expiration date for 45 days from the day the notice is received by the ~~commissioner~~ Commissioner and the employer. However, ~~this latter provision shall not apply if, prior to such expiration date, on or before the expiration of the existing insurance or guarantee contract the insurance carrier has, by delivery of a renewal contract or otherwise, offered to continue the insurance beyond the date by delivery of a renewal contract or otherwise, or if the employer notifies the insurance carrier in writing that the employer does not wish the insurance continued beyond the expiration date, or if the employer complies with the provisions of section 687 of this title, on or before the expiration of the existing insurance or guarantee contract then the policy will expire upon notice to the Commissioner.~~

Sec. 58. ROBERT H. WOOD CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND FIRE SERVICE

TRAINING CENTER STUDY

The Department of Labor and the Office of Risk Management, in consultation with the Vermont League of Cities and Towns and any other interested parties, shall conduct a study, to be submitted to the House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development and the Senate Committee on Finance on or before January 15, 2015, to:

(1) analyze existing and frequently occurring injuries suffered by individuals while attending the Robert H. Wood Criminal Justice and Fire Service Training Center;

(2) analyze preventive measures to avoid injuries;

(3) recommend who should bear the financial burden of the workers' compensation premiums; and

(4) recommend preventive measures necessary to reduce injuries.

Sec. 59. WORKPLACE SAFETY RANKING STUDY

The Department of Labor and the Department of Financial Regulation, in consultation with the *National Council on Compensation Insurance*, shall study whether information may be made available to employers to allow an employer to compare its workplace safety and workers' compensation experience with that of employers in similar industries or *North American Industry Classification System* codes.

Sec. 60. 2013 Acts and Resolves No. 75, Sec. 14 is amended as follows:

Sec. 14. UNIFIED PAIN MANAGEMENT SYSTEM ADVISORY COUNCIL

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(b) The Unified Pain Management System Advisory Council shall consist of the following members:

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(4) the Commissioner of Labor or designee;

(5) the Director of the Blueprint for Health or designee;

~~(5)~~(6) the Chair of the Board of Medical Practice or designee, who shall be a clinician;

	<p><del>(6)</del><u>(7)</u> a representative of the Vermont State Dental Society, who shall be a dentist;</p> <p><del>(7)</del><u>(8)</u> a representative of the Vermont Board of Pharmacy, who shall be a pharmacist;</p> <p><del>(8)</del><u>(9)</u> a faculty member of the academic detailing program at the University of Vermont's College of Medicine;</p> <p><del>(9)</del><u>(10)</u> a faculty member of the University of Vermont's College of Medicine with expertise in the treatment of addiction or chronic pain management;</p> <p><del>(10)</del><u>(11)</u> a representative of the Vermont Medical Society, who shall be a primary care clinician;</p> <p><del>(11)</del><u>(12)</u> a representative of the American Academy of Family Physicians, Vermont chapter, who shall be a primary care clinician;</p> <p><del>(12)</del><u>(13)</u> a representative from the Vermont Board of Osteopathic Physicians, who shall be an osteopath;</p> <p><del>(13)</del><u>(14)</u> a representative of the Federally Qualified Health Centers, who shall be a primary care clinician selected by the Bi-State Primary Care Association;</p> <p><del>(14)</del><u>(15)</u> a representative of the Vermont Ethics Network;</p> <p><del>(15)</del><u>(16)</u> a representative of the Hospice and Palliative Care Council of Vermont;</p> <p><del>(16)</del><u>(17)</u> a representative of the Office of the Health Care Ombudsman;</p> <p><del>(17)</del><u>(18)</u> the Medical Director for the Department of Vermont Health Access;</p> <p><del>(18)</del><u>(19)</u> a clinician who works in the emergency department of a hospital, to be selected by the Vermont Association of Hospitals and Health Systems in consultation with any nonmember hospitals;</p> <p><del>(19)</del><u>(20)</u> a member of the Vermont Board of Nursing Subcommittee on APRN Practice, who shall be an advanced practice registered nurse;</p> <p><del>(20)</del><u>(21)</u> a representative from the Vermont Assembly of Home Health and Hospice Agencies;</p> <p><del>(21)</del><u>(22)</u> a psychologist licensed pursuant to 26 V.S.A. chapter 55</p>	
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who has experience in treating chronic pain, to be selected by the Board of Psychological Examiners;

~~(22)~~(23) a drug and alcohol abuse counselor licensed pursuant to 33 V.S.A. chapter 8, to be selected by the Deputy Commissioner of Health for Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs;

~~(23)~~(24) a retail pharmacist, to be selected by the Vermont Pharmacists Association;

~~(24)~~(25) an advanced practice registered nurse full-time faculty member from the University of Vermont's Department of Nursing; ~~and~~

~~(25)~~(26) a consumer representative who is either a consumer in recovery from prescription drug abuse or a consumer receiving medical treatment for chronic noncancer-related pain;

(27) a clinician who specializes in occupational medicine or physical medicine and rehabilitation; and

(28) a consumer representative who is or has been an injured worker and has been prescribed opioids.

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Sec. 61. 21 V.S.A. § 602 is amended to read:

§ 602. PROCESS AND PROCEDURE

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(c) Any communication from an employer or an insurer to a claimant that is not otherwise required to be provided on a form proscribed by the Commissioner, must include a statement advising the claimant to immediately contact the Vermont Department of Labor's Worker Compensation Division to determine a right to object or appeal, as provided by law, and to seek information from the Department on the process and procedures.

Sec. 62. 21 V.S.A. § 655 is amended to read:

§ 655. PROCEDURE IN OBTAINING COMPENSATION; MEDICAL EXAMINATION; VIDEO AND AUDIO RECORDING

After an injury and during the period of disability, if so requested by his or her employer, or ordered by the Commissioner, the employee shall submit to examination, at reasonable times and ~~places~~ within a two-hour

driving radius of the residence of the injured employee, by a duly licensed physician or surgeon designated and paid by the employer. The Commissioner may in his or her discretion permit an examination outside the two-hour driving radius if it is necessary to obtain the services of a provider who specializes in the evaluation and treatment specific to the nature and extent of the employee's injury. The employee may make a video or audio recording of any examination performed by the insurer's physician or surgeon or have a licensed health care provider designated and paid by the employee present at the examination. The employer may make an audio recording of the examination. The right of the employee to record the examination shall not be construed to deny to the employer's physician the right to visit the injured employee at all reasonable times and under all reasonable conditions during total disability. If an employee refuses to submit to or in any way obstructs the examination, the employee's right to prosecute any proceeding under the provisions of this chapter shall be suspended until the refusal or obstruction ceases, and compensation shall not be payable for the period which the refusal or obstruction continues.

Sec. 63. 21 V.S.A. § 663b is added to read:

§ 663b. FRAUD

(a) Any claims of fraud submitted to the Department shall require action by the Commissioner to determine if further investigation is warranted. The Commissioner shall order the insurer to investigate specific allegations of claimant fraud and submit a written report to the Department. Once the insurer's report is received, the Commissioner shall afford the claimant an opportunity to respond in person or in writing within 30 days. The Commissioner may order additional information to be provided to the Department from the insurer or the claimant. The Department shall issue a determination on the fraud allegation, including penalties and any reimbursement as provided under § 708 of this title. The party may appeal the decision of the Commissioner as provided under 3 V.S.A. chapter 25.

(b) An employee found to have committed fraud in order to receive

	<p>compensation under this chapter shall be ordered to repay all compensation fraudulently received in addition to other administrative penalties ordered by the Department. These payments shall not be charged to the employer for purposes of calculating its experience rating.</p> <p><b>Sec. 64. FRAUD STUDY AND REPORT</b></p> <p>The Department shall initiate a study of the best practices to detect and deter workers' compensation fraud by employees, employers, and other persons involved with the workers' compensation system. The study shall include investigation procedures, penalties, and recapture of fraudulently obtained payments in a timely and cost-effective manner. On or before January 15, 2015, the Department shall report their findings and recommendations to the House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development and the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs.</p>	
<p><b>Prevailing Wages; State Construction Projects</b></p>	<p><b>Unchanged (Secs. 65-67)</b></p>	<p><b>Unchanged</b></p>
<p><b>Effective Dates</b></p>	<p><b>Sec. 68. EFFECTIVE DATES</b></p> <p>(a) This section, and Secs. 20a (Public Service Board; order revision), 52, 53, and 58-64 (certain workers' compensation provisions) shall take effect on passage.</p> <p>(b) 16 V.S.A. § 2888(b)(3) (Vermont Strong loan forgiveness) in Sec. 47 and Secs. 65-67 shall take effect on July 1, 2015.</p> <p>(c) The remainder of this act shall take effect on July 1, 2014.</p>	<p><b>Sec. 62. EFFECTIVE DATES</b></p> <p>This act shall take effect on July 1, 2014, except that 16 V.S.A. § 2888(b)(3) in Sec. 54 and Secs. 30, 31, and 32 (regarding the Division for Connectivity) shall take effect on July 1, 2015.</p>