

1 TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

2 The Committee on Government Operations to which was referred House Bill
3 No. 585 entitled “An act relating to prohibiting the creation and renewal of
4 State Police contracts with municipalities to provide police services”
5 respectfully reports that it has considered the same and recommends that the
6 bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in
7 lieu thereof the following:

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

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

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

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

19 (2) four current members of the Senate, not all from the same political
20 party, who shall be appointed by the Committee on Committees. Two of these

1 members shall be from the Committee on Government Operations and two of
2 whom shall be from the Committee on Judiciary.

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

5 (1) the overall mission of the State Police;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 (f) Meetings.

2 (1) The Chairs of the House and Senate Committees on Government
3 Operations shall call the first meeting of the Committee to occur on or before
4 July 30, 2014.

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

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

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

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

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

15 (g) Reimbursement. For attendance at meetings during adjournment of the
16 General Assembly, legislative members of the Committee shall be entitled to
17 per diem compensation and reimbursement of expenses pursuant to
18 2 V.S.A. § 406.

19 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

20 This act shall take effect on passage.

1 and that after passage the title of the bill be amended to read: “An act relating
2 to a study of law enforcement structure in the State”.

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6 (Committee vote: _____)

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Representative [surname]

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FOR THE COMMITTEE