

**Proposals for Additional Amendments to**

**S. 168, Municipal Toolbox Legislation**

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In Victory, a three member Selectboard was reduced to one through resignations. Title 24 VSA § 963 establishes that in the event of vacancies in the majority of the Selectboard at one time, a special election shall be called to fill the vacancies. The statute regulating special town meetings requires warning and notice “not less than 30 nor more than 40 days before the election” 17 VSA§ 2641. We believe it would be very helpful in this circumstance to drop the warning period to ten days.

24 VSA section 2291, Enumeration of Powers, is amended to read:

2291. Enumeration of Powers

For the purpose of promoting the public health, safety, welfare, and convenience, a town, city, or incorporated village shall have the following powers:

.....

(26) When a disaster or emergency has been declared by the Governor, a municipal building inspector, health officer, fire marshal or zoning administrator, may declare a property that has been substantially damaged in the disaster or emergency condemned to destroy for the purposes of protecting the public or to qualify for federal assistance that may be available.