

1 TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

2 The Committee on Health and Welfare to which was referred Senate Bill  
3 No. 295 entitled “An act relating to pretrial services, risk assessments, and  
4 criminal justice programs” respectfully reports that it has considered the same  
5 and recommends that the report of the Committee on Judiciary be amended as  
6 follows:

7 First: In Sec. 1, Legislative Findings, by adding a subsection (d) to read:

8 (d) The General Assembly intends this act to be a continuation of justice  
9 reinvestment efforts initiated in 2007 by the Legislative, Judicial, and  
10 Executive Branches. Justice reinvestment is a data-driven approach to improve  
11 public safety, reduce corrections and related criminal justice spending, and  
12 reinvest savings in strategies that can decrease crime and strengthen  
13 communities.

14 Second: In Sec. 2, 13 V.S.A. § 7554c, by striking out subdivision (d)(1)(C)  
15 in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof

16 (C) comply with any level of treatment or recovery support recommended  
17 by the provider;

18 Third: In Sec. 3, risk and needs screening tools and services, in subdivision  
19 (e)(3), following “rehabilitative services,” by inserting recovery supports,  
20 and by adding a subsection (g) to read:

1        (g) The Secretary of Human Services, with staff and administrative support  
2        from the Criminal Justice Capable Core Team, shall map services and assess  
3        the impact of court referrals and the capacity of the current service provision  
4        system in each region. The Secretary, in collaboration with service providers  
5        and other stakeholders, shall consider regional resources, including services for  
6        assessment, early intervention, treatment, and recovery support. Building on  
7        existing models and data, the Secretary and the Criminal Justice Capable Core  
8        Team shall develop recommendations for a system for referral based on the  
9        appropriate level of need, identifying existing gaps to optimize successful  
10       outcomes. Funding models for those services shall be examined by the  
11       appropriate State departments.

12       Fourth: In Sec. 4, alternatives to traditional criminal justice model, in  
13       subsection (a), in the last sentence, following “pretrial services and case  
14       management,” by inserting recovery support,

15       Fifth: In Sec. 5, 13 V.S.A. § 7554d, in subsection (a), in the first sentence,  
16       following “substance abuse,” by inserting addiction recovery,



1 (e) A person who seeks medical assistance for a drug overdose or is the  
2 subject of a good faith request for medical assistance pursuant to subsection (b)  
3 or (c) of this section shall not be subject to any sanction for a violation of a  
4 condition of pretrial release, probation, furlough, or parole for a violation of  
5 this chapter or 7 V.S.A §§ 656 and 657, for being at the scene of the drug  
6 overdose, or for being within close proximity to any person at the scene of the  
7 drug overdose.

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9 Tenth: In Sec. 18, effective dates, in subsection (b), by striking out “12  
10 (approved prescribers of buprenorphine),” and “15 (tamper-resistant packing),  
11 16 (buprenorphine tablets and blister packs),”

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16 (Committee vote: \_\_\_\_\_)

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Senator \_\_\_\_\_

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FOR THE COMMITTEE