| 1  | S.18  |
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| 2  | Introduced by Senators Ashe and Benning   |
| 3  | Referred to Committee on  |
| 4  | Date:   |
| 5  | Subject: Privacy; electronic communications; medical records; drones;           |
| 6  | automated license plate readers   |
| 7  | Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes a number of      |
| 8  | measures intended to enhance privacy protection. The bill includes the          |
| 9  | following provisions:   |
| 10 | (1) The bill proposes to require that a court issue a search warrant before     |
| 11 | a company providing electronic communication services, remote computing         |
| 12 | services, or location information services may release certain customer records |
| 13 | to a government office or public official.                                      |
| 14 | (2) The bill proposes to establish a private right of action for a person       |
| 15 | whose health care information is improperly disclosed by another person.        |
| 16 | (3) The bill proposes to establish regulations for the use of drones, also      |
| 17 | known as unmanned aerial vehicles. The bill proposes to permit a law            |
| 18 | enforcement agency to use a drone only if the agency obtains a warrant or if    |
| 19 | emergency circumstances exist.  |
| 20 | (4) The bill proposes to restrict the use of automated license plate            |

recognition (ALPR) systems, to require data captured by ALPR systems to be

| 1  | kept confidential, and to limit such data from being retained for more than |
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| 2  | 24 hours, unless certain exceptions apply.                                  |
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|    |   |
| 3  | An act relating to privacy protection                                       |
| 4  | It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:       |
| 5  | Sec. 1. 13 V.S.A. § 4704 is added to read:                                  |
| 6  | § 4704. WARRANTS FOR RECORDS HELD BY COMPANIES                              |
| 7  | PROVIDING ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES,                               |
| 8  | REMOTE COMPUTING SERVICES, OR LOCATION                                      |
| 9  | INFORMATION SERVICES  |
| 10 | (a) As used in this section:  |
| 11 | (1) "Adverse result" means a result that occurs when notification of the    |
| 12 | existence of a search warrant causes:                                       |
| 13 | (A) danger to the life or physical safety of an individual;                 |
| 14 | (B) flight from prosecution;  |
| 15 | (C) the destruction of or tampering with evidence;                          |
| 16 | (D) the intimidation of a potential witness or witnesses; or                |
| 17 | (E) serious jeopardy to an investigation or undue delay of a trial.         |
| 18 | (2) "Electronic communication services" shall have the same meaning         |

as that term has when construed under 18 U.S.C. §§ 2701–2711.

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| 1  | (3) "Electronic device" means any device that enables access to, or use         |
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| 2  | of, an electronic communication service, remote computing service, or location  |
| 3  | information service.  |
| 4  | (4) "Foreign corporation" means any corporation, person, or other entity        |
| 5  | that makes a contract or engages in a terms of service agreement with a         |
| 6  | resident of Vermont to be performed in whole or in part by either party in      |
| 7  | Vermont. The making of the contract or terms of service agreement shall be      |
| 8  | considered to be the agreement of the foreign corporation that a search warrant |
| 9  | or subpoena which has been properly served on it has the same legal force and   |
| 10 | effect as if served personally within Vermont.                                  |
| 11 | (5) "Location information" means any information concerning the                 |
| 12 | location of an electronic device that, in whole or in part, is generated by or  |
| 13 | derived from the operation of that device.                                      |
| 14 | (6) "Location information service" means a global positioning service or        |
| 15 | other mapping, locational, or directional information service.                  |
| 16 | (7) "Properly served" means delivery of a search warrant or subpoena            |
| 17 | by hand, by U.S. mail, by commercial delivery service, by facsimile, or by any  |
| 18 | other manner to any officer of a corporation or its general manager, to any     |
| 19 | natural person designated by it as agent for the service of process, or if the  |
| 20 | corporation has designated a corporate agent, to any person named in the latest |

certificate filed with the Secretary of State.

| 1  | (8) "Remote computing services" shall have the same meaning as that              |
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| 2  | term has when construed under 18 U.S.C. §§ 2701–2711.                            |
| 3  | (9) "Subpoena" means a grand jury or trial subpoena issued in the                |
| 4  | course of a criminal proceeding, an inquest subpoena issued pursuant to          |
| 5  | chapter 161 of this title, or any administrative subpoena issued pursuant to     |
| 6  | Vermont law.   |
| 7  | (10) "Vermont corporation" means any domestic corporation, sole                  |
| 8  | proprietorship, association, partnership, company, or any entity that is subject |
| 9  | to the provisions of Title 11, 11A, 11B, or 11C.                                 |
| 10 | (b)(1) A Vermont or foreign corporation that provides electronic                 |
| 11 | communication services, remote computing services, or location information       |
| 12 | services shall not release any of the following customer records to a            |
| 13 | government office or public official unless the release is authorized by a       |
| 14 | properly issued warrant:   |
| 15 | (A) records which would reveal the identity of a customer using the              |
| 16 | company's services;  |
| 17 | (B) data stored by or on behalf of a customer;                                   |
| 18 | (C) records of a customer's usage of the company's services;                     |
| 19 | (D) records of the source of communications sent to a customer or of             |
| 20 | the recipient or destination of communications sent from a customer;             |
| 21 | (E) the content of communications sent to or by a customer; or                   |

| 1  | (F) location information of the customer.   |
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| 2  | (2) A warrant required by this section shall identify with particularity          |
| 3  | the things to be searched and seized and shall require the person making          |
| 4  | application for the warrant to serve it properly upon the corporation.            |
| 5  | (c) The following provisions shall apply to a search warrant required by          |
| 6  | this section and to a subpoena issued in the course of a criminal investigation   |
| 7  | or proceeding directed to a Vermont or foreign corporation that provides          |
| 8  | electronic communication services, remote computing services, or location         |
| 9  | services:   |
| 10 | (1) When served properly with a subpoena or a search warrant required             |
| 11 | by this section, a corporation shall provide all records sought by the warrant or |
| 12 | subpoena within 14 days of receipt, including those records maintained or         |
| 13 | located outside Vermont.  |
| 14 | (2) If the Court finds upon motion of the applicant that failure to               |
| 15 | produce records within 14 days would cause an adverse result, a warrant may       |
| 16 | require production of records within less than 14 days.                           |
| 17 | (3) The Court may upon motion of the applicant grant a reasonable                 |
| 18 | extension of the time required for production of the records if it finds that the |
| 19 | corporation has shown good cause for that extension and that the extension        |
| 20 | would not cause an adverse result.  |

| <u>(4</u>      | (A) A corporation may file a motion to quash a warrant or subpoena        |
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| served o       | on it under this section. Except as provided in subdivisions (B) and (C)  |
| of this s      | ubdivision (4), the motion shall be filed in the Superior Court that      |
| issued th      | ne warrant or the Superior Court which has jurisdiction over the          |
| subpoen        | a. The motion shall be filed within the time required for production of   |
| records        | pursuant to this section and shall be ruled upon no later than 14 days    |
| after it is    | s filed.  |
|                | (B) In the case of a subpoena issued by the Attorney General or a         |
| State age      | ency, the motion to quash shall be filed in the Civil Division of the     |
| Washing        | gton County Superior Court.   |
| <u>(5</u>      | ) In the case of a subpoena issued by a government agency or officer      |
| other tha      | an the Attorney General or a State agency, including State's Attorneys,   |
| the moti       | on to quash shall be filed in the Superior Court of the county in which   |
| the agen       | cy or officer maintains an office.  |
| <u>(6</u>      | A corporation shall verify the authenticity of records it produces in     |
| response       | e to a subpoena or a search warrant required by this section by           |
| providin       | ng an affidavit from the person in custody of the records certifying that |
| the reco       | rds are true and complete.  |
| (d) V          | When served with a warrant or subpoena issued by another state to         |
| <u>produce</u> | records that would reveal the identity of the customers using those       |
| services       | , data stored by or on behalf of the customer, the customer's usage of    |

| 1  | those services, the recipient or destination of communications sent to or from     |
|----|--|
| 2  | those customers, or the content of those communications, a Vermont                 |
| 3  | corporation that provides electronic communication services or remote              |
| 4  | computing services shall comply with this section and produce the records as if    |
| 5  | the warrant or subpoena had been issued under the law of Vermont.                  |
| 6  | (e) Any person and any foreign or Vermont corporation shall be immune              |
| 7  | from civil liability for providing records, information, facilities, or assistance |
| 8  | in compliance with a warrant or subpoena issued pursuant to the requirements       |
| 9  | of this section.   |
| 10 | (f) A search warrant issued pursuant to the requirements of this                   |
| 11 | section shall:   |
| 12 | (1) designate the corporation or other entity in possession of the records         |
| 13 | or data sought and describe, with particularity, the record systems and            |
| 14 | information to be provided;  |
| 15 | (2) be issued in the form and manner prescribed by Vermont Rule of                 |
| 16 | Criminal Procedure 41 insofar as it is applicable; and                             |
| 17 | (3) be directed to the government office or public official making                 |
| 18 | application for the warrant, who shall serve it upon the corporation or            |
| 19 | other entity.  |
| 20 | (g) Not later than seven days after information described in subdivisions          |
| 21 | (b)(1)(A)–(F) of this section is obtained by a government office or public         |

| 1  | official pursuant to this section, the office or official shall provide the customer |
|----|--|
| 2  | or subscriber with a copy of the warrant, a copy of the application for the          |
| 3  | warrant, and a statement containing the following information:                       |
| 4  | (1) a reasonably specific description of the nature of the law                       |
| 5  | enforcement inquiry;   |
| 6  | (2) a statement that information maintained for the customer or                      |
| 7  | subscriber by the provider of an electronic communications service, remote           |
| 8  | computing service, or location information service was requested by or               |
| 9  | supplied to that government office or public official, and a description of          |
| 10 | that information;  |
| 11 | (3) the dates on which the requests were made and the information                    |
| 12 | supplied; and  |
| 13 | (4) whether notification of the customer or subscriber was delayed under             |
| 14 | subsection (h) of this section, and if so the Court that issued the order            |
| 15 | authorizing the delay.   |
| 16 | (h) An application for a warrant issued pursuant to the requirements of              |
| 17 | subsection (b) of this section may include a motion to delay the notification        |
| 18 | required by subsection (g) of this section for a period not to exceed 90 days, or    |
| 19 | to delay notification of the existence of the warrant to any other person for a      |
| 20 | period not to exceed 90 days. The Court shall grant the motion and issue an          |

order delaying the notification if it determines there is reason to believe that

emergency; and

| 1  | notification of the existence of the warrant may have an adverse result. Upon    |
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| 2  | expiration of any period of delay granted under this subsection, the applicant   |
| 3  | shall provide the customer or subscriber a copy of the warrant together with the |
| 4  | notice required under subsection (g) of this section. An order to delay          |
| 5  | notification under this subsection may upon motion of the applicant for the      |
| 6  | warrant be extended for one or more additional 90-day periods.                   |
| 7  | (i) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, a government office or public       |
| 8  | official may obtain information described in subdivisions (b)(1)(A)–(F) of       |
| 9  | this section:  |
| 10 | (1) with the express consent of the owner or user of the electronic              |
| 11 | communications device concerned;   |
| 12 | (2) in order to respond to the user's call for emergency services; or            |
| 13 | (3) if the government office or public official reasonably believes that an      |
| 14 | emergency involving immediate danger of death or serious physical injury to      |
| 15 | any person requires obtaining without delay information relating to the          |
| 16 | emergency, provided that the request is narrowly tailored to address the         |
| 17 | emergency and subject to the following limitations:                              |
| 18 | (A) the request shall document the factual basis for believing that an           |
| 19 | emergency involving immediate danger of death or serious physical injury to a    |
| 20 | person requires obtaining without delay the information relating to the          |

| 1  | (B) no later than 48 hours after the government office obtains access            |
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| 2  | to the records, it shall file with the Criminal Division in the county where the |
| 3  | records are obtained a sworn statement of a supervisory official of a rank       |
| 4  | designated by the head of the office stating the grounds for the emergency       |
| 5  | access.  |
| 6  | (j) On the second Friday of September of each calendar year, each                |
| 7  | territorial unit of the Superior Court which has issued or denied a warrant      |
| 8  | under this section during the preceding calendar year shall report the following |
| 9  | information to the Supreme Court with respect to each warrant issued:            |
| 10 | (1) the fact that the warrant was applied for;                                   |
| 11 | (2) the identity of the agency making the application;                           |
| 12 | (3) the offense specified in the warrant or application;                         |
| 13 | (4) the place where the information was obtained and the nature of the           |
| 14 | facilities that held it;   |
| 15 | (5) whether the warrant was granted as applied for, modified, or                 |
| 16 | denied; and  |
| 17 | (6) the period of disclosures authorized by the warrant, and the number          |
| 18 | and duration of any extensions of the warrant.                                   |
| 19 | (k) Commencing in 2015, on December 15, and annually on that date                |
| 20 | thereafter, the Supreme Court shall report to the General Assembly the number    |
| 21 | of applications for warrants authorizing or requiring the disclosure of          |

| 1  | information described in subdivisions (b)(1)(A)–(F) of this section. The report     |
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| 2  | shall include a summary and analysis of the data filed with the Supreme Court       |
| 3  | under subsection (j) of this section. The report shall be filed with the offices of |
| 4  | the Clerk of the House and the Secretary of the Senate and shall be public          |
| 5  | records. The Supreme Court may promulgate rules for the form of the reports.        |
| 6  | (l) Except in a judicial proceeding alleging a violation of this section, no        |
| 7  | information obtained in violation of this section shall be admissible in any        |
| 8  | criminal, civil, administrative, or other proceeding.                               |
| 9  | Sec. 2. 18 V.S.A. chapter 42B is added to read:                                     |
| 10 | CHAPTER 42B. HEALTH CARE PRIVACY  |
| 11 | § 1881. DISCLOSURE OF PROTECTED HEALTH INFORMATION                                  |
| 12 | <u>PROHIBITED</u>   |
| 13 | (a) It is the intent of the General Assembly:                                       |
| 14 | (1) that the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996            |
| 15 | (HIPAA), codified at 42 U.S.C. § 1320d and 45 C.F.R. §§ 160–164, as from            |
| 16 | time to time amended, serve as the standard for protected health information in     |
| 17 | this State; and   |
| 18 | (2) that in construing the section, the courts of this State shall be guided        |
| 19 | by the construction of similar terms contained in HIPAA by the courts of the        |
| 20 | United States.  |

| 1  | (b) As used in this section:   |
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| 2  | (1) "Covered entity shall have the same meaning as in 45 C.F.R.                  |
| 3  | <u>§ 160.103.</u>  |
| 4  | (2) "Protected health information" shall have the same meaning as in             |
| 5  | 45 C.F.R. § 160.103.   |
| 6  | (c) A covered entity shall not disclose protected health information unless      |
| 7  | the disclosure is permitted under HIPAA.   |
| 8  | § 1882. PRIVATE CAUSE OF ACTION  |
| 9  | A person whose protected health information is disclosed in violation of         |
| 10 | subsection 1881(c) of this title may bring an action in Superior Court for       |
| 11 | damages, injunctive relief, punitive damages in the case of a willful violation, |
| 12 | and reasonable costs and attorney's fees. The Court may issue an award for       |
| 13 | the person's actual damages or \$500.00 for a first violation, or \$1,000.00 for |
| 14 | each subsequent violation, whichever is greater. This section shall not limit    |
| 15 | any other claims a person aggrieved by a violation of this section may have      |
| 16 | under applicable law.  |
| 17 | Sec. 3. 20 V.S.A. chapter 205 is added to read:                                  |
| 18 | CHAPTER 205. DRONES  |
| 19 | § 4621. DEFINITIONS  |
| 20 | As used in this chapter:   |
| 21 | (1) "Drone" means a powered aerial vehicle that does not carry a human           |

| 1  | operator and is able to fly autonomously or to be piloted remotely.             |
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| 2  | (2) "Law enforcement agency" means:   |
| 3  | (A) the Department of Public Safety;  |
| 4  | (B) a municipal police department;  |
| 5  | (C) a sheriff's department;   |
| 6  | (D) the Attorney General's Office;  |
| 7  | (E) a State's Attorney's office;  |
| 8  | (F) the Capitol Police Department;  |
| 9  | (G) the Department of Liquor Control;   |
| 10 | (H) the Department of Fish and Wildlife;  |
| 11 | (I) the Department of Motor Vehicles;   |
| 12 | (J) a State investigator; or  |
| 13 | (K) a person or entity acting on behalf of an agency listed in this             |
| 14 | subdivision (2).  |
| 15 | § 4622. LAW ENFORCEMENT USE OF DRONES   |
| 16 | (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, a law enforcement     |
| 17 | agency shall not use a drone for any purpose or disclose or receive information |
| 18 | acquired through the operation of a drone.                                      |
| 19 | (b) A law enforcement agency may use a drone and may disclose or receive        |
| 20 | information acquired through the operation of a drone if the drone is operated  |
| 21 | under:  |

| 1  | (1) a warrant obtained pursuant to Rule 41 of the Vermont Rules of                |
|----|---|
| 2  | Criminal Procedure; or  |
| 3  | (2) emergency circumstances pursuant to section 4623 of this title.               |
| 4  | (c)(1) When a drone is used pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, the       |
| 5  | drone shall be operated in a manner to collect data only on the target of the     |
| 6  | surveillance and to avoid data collection on any other person, home, or area.     |
| 7  | (2) If a drone used pursuant to subsection (b) of this section collects data      |
| 8  | on any person, home, or area other than the target of the surveillance, the data: |
| 9  | (A) shall not be used, copied, or disclosed for any purpose; and                  |
| 10 | (B) shall be deleted as soon as possible and in no event later than               |
| 11 | 24 hours after the data were collected.   |
| 12 | (3) Facial recognition or any other biometric matching technology shall           |
| 13 | not be used on any data that a drone collects on any person, home, or area        |
| 14 | other than the target of the surveillance.  |
| 15 | (d) Information or evidence gathered in violation of this section shall be        |
| 16 | inadmissible in any judicial or administrative proceeding.                        |
| 17 | (e) Drones shall not be equipped with weapons.                                    |
| 18 | § 4623. USE OF DRONES IN EMERGENCY SITUATIONS                                     |
| 19 | (a) A law enforcement agency may use a drone and may disclose or receive          |
| 20 | information acquired through the operation of a drone if:                         |
| 21 | (1) an emergency situation exists in which it is reasonable to believe            |

| 1  | there is an imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury to any person; and  |
|----|---|
| 2  | (2) the law enforcement agency obtains a search warrant for the use of            |
| 3  | the drone within 48 hours after the use commenced.                                |
| 4  | (b) If the court denies an application for a warrant filed pursuant to            |
| 5  | subdivision (a)(2) of this section:   |
| 6  | (1) use of the drone shall cease immediately; and                                 |
| 7  | (2) information or evidence gathered through use of the drone shall be            |
| 8  | destroyed and is inadmissible in any judicial or administrative proceeding.       |
| 9  | (c) If a law enforcement agency using a drone in an emergency situation           |
| 10 | pursuant to this section obtains the information sought, the agency shall         |
| 11 | immediately cease use of the drone.   |
| 12 | § 4624. NONLAW-ENFORCEMENT USE OF DRONES  |
| 13 | Any use of drones by any person other than a law enforcement agency shall         |
| 14 | comply with all Federal Aviation Administration requirements and guidelines.      |
| 15 | § 4625. REPORTS   |
| 16 | (a) On or before September 1 of each year, any law enforcement agency             |
| 17 | that has used a drone within the previous 12 months shall report the following    |
| 18 | information to the Department of Public Safety:                                   |
| 19 | (1) The number of times the agency used a drone within the previous               |
| 20 | 12 months. For each use of a drone, the agency shall report the type of           |
| 21 | incident involved, the nature of the information collected, and the rationale for |

| 1  | deployment of the drone.   |
|----|--|
| 2  | (2) The number of criminal investigations aided and arrests made                   |
| 3  | through use of information gained by the use of drones within the previous         |
| 4  | 12 months, including a description of how the drone aided each investigation       |
| 5  | or arrest.   |
| 6  | (3) The number of times a drone collected data on any person, home, or             |
| 7  | area other than the target of the surveillance within the previous 12 months and   |
| 8  | the type of data collected in each instance.                                       |
| 9  | (4) The cost of the agency's unmanned aerial vehicle program and the               |
| 10 | program's source of funding.   |
| 11 | (b) On or before December 1 of each year, the Department of Public Safety          |
| 12 | shall report the information collected under subsection (a) of this section to the |
| 13 | House and Senate Committees on Judiciary and on Government Operations.             |
| 14 | (c) On or before December 1 of each year, the Administrative Judge shall           |
| 15 | report to the House and Senate Committees on Judiciary and on Government           |
| 16 | Operations on the application for and issuance of warrants for the use of drones   |
| 17 | during the previous 12 months. The report shall include:                           |
| 18 | (1) the number of applications for warrants authorizing the use of drones          |
| 19 | during the previous 12 months and the number of applications for warrants          |
| 20 | granted and denied, including any extensions applied for, granted, or denied;      |
| 21 | (2) the period of time for which drone use was authorized by each                  |

| 1  | warrant, including any extensions;   |
|----|--|
| 2  | (3) the alleged criminal conduct that was the subject of the warrant; and      |
| 3  | (4) the law enforcement agency that applied for the warrant; and               |
| 4  | (5) the number of convictions obtained in cases where information was          |
| 5  | gained by the use of drones within the previous 12 months and the offenses for |
| 6  | which the convictions were obtained.   |
| 7  | Sec. 4. 23 V.S.A. § 1607a is added to read:                                    |
| 8  | § 1607a. AUTOMATED LICENSE PLATE RECOGNITION SYSTEMS                           |
| 9  | (a) Definitions. As used in this section and section 1608 of this title:       |
| 10 | (1) "Automated license plate recognition system" or "ALPR system"              |
| 11 | means a system:  |
| 12 | (A) of one or more mobile or fixed high-speed cameras combined                 |
| 13 | with computer algorithms that convert images of license plates into            |
| 14 | computer-readable files of license plate numbers; and                          |
| 15 | (B) onto which license plate data from Department of Motor                     |
| 16 | Vehicles, National Crime Information Center, and Department of Public Safety   |
| 17 | alert databases are downloaded, for purposes of generating an alert when a     |
| 18 | captured license plate number matches a number from an alert database.         |
| 19 | (2) "Captured plate data" means any data captured by or derived from           |
| 20 | an ALPR system, including a photograph of a license plate, a license plate     |

| 1  | number, GPS coordinates of the location of a license plate, and the date and |
|----|--|
| 2  | time that an ALPR system captured data relating to a license plate.          |
| 3  | (3) "Department" means the Department of Public Safety.                      |
| 4  | (4) "Law enforcement officer" means a State Police officer, municipal        |
| 5  | police officer, motor vehicle inspector, Capitol Police officer, constable,  |
| 6  | sheriff, or deputy sheriff, who is certified by the Vermont Criminal Justice |
| 7  | Training Council as having satisfactorily completed the approved training    |
| 8  | programs required to meet the minimum training standards applicable to that  |
| 9  | person under 20 V.S.A. § 2358.   |
| 10 | (5) "Legitimate law enforcement purpose" means:                              |
| 11 | (A) detection, investigation, analysis, or enforcement of a crime,           |
| 12 | traffic violation, or parking violation;                                     |
| 13 | (B) operation of AMBER alerts; or  |
| 14 | (C) missing or endangered person searches.                                   |
| 15 | (6) "Vermont law enforcement agency" means:                                  |
| 16 | (A) the Department of Public Safety;   |
| 17 | (B) a municipal police department;   |
| 18 | (C) a sheriff's department;  |
| 19 | (D) the Office of the Attorney General;                                      |
| 20 | (E) a State's Attorney's office;   |
| 21 | (F) the Capitol Police Department;   |

| 1  | (G) the Department of Motor Vehicles.   |
|----|---|
| 2  | (7) "Warrant" means a warrant issued pursuant to Rule 41 of the                   |
| 3  | Vermont of Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure.                                   |
| 4  | (b) Restrictions on use of ALPR systems, ALPR database content.                   |
| 5  | (1) A person shall not operate an ALPR system in Vermont unless he or             |
| 6  | she is a law enforcement officer and operates the system for a legitimate law     |
| 7  | enforcement purpose. A law enforcement officer shall not operate an ALPR          |
| 8  | system in Vermont unless:   |
| 9  | (A) the officer is certified in ALPR operation by the Vermont                     |
| 10 | Criminal Justice Training Council; and  |
| 11 | (B) the system transmits captured plate data to the Department within             |
| 12 | 24 hours of its collection, and does not retain any captured plate data after its |
| 13 | transfer to the Department.   |
| 14 | (2) A Department supervisor must approve the entry of any data onto               |
| 15 | the statewide ALPR server other than data collected by an ALPR system itself,     |
| 16 | and any such entry shall be for a legitimate law enforcement purpose.             |
| 17 | (c) Confidentiality of captured plate data; exceptions.                           |
| 18 | (1) Except as provided in this subsection, captured plate data are exempt         |
| 19 | from public inspection and copying under the Public Records Act and shall be      |
| 20 | kept confidential. Captured plate data shall not be subject to subpoena or to     |
| 21 | discovery or be admissible in evidence in any private litigation.                 |

| 1  | (2) If the Department retains captured plate data pursuant to a warrant, it      |
|----|--|
| 2  | may disclose the data to a law enforcement agency, but only pursuant to the      |
| 3  | terms of the warrant. A receiving agency may use the data or further disclose    |
| 4  | the data, but only for a legitimate law enforcement purpose.                     |
| 5  | (3)(A) Upon request, the Department may disclose captured plate data             |
| 6  | retained under subdivision (d)(2)(B) of this section to an out-of-state or       |
| 7  | Vermont law enforcement agency, but only if disclosure is for a legitimate law   |
| 8  | enforcement purpose. A law enforcement agency receiving such data may use        |
| 9  | or further disclose the data, but only for a legitimate law enforcement purpose. |
| 10 | (B) Any requests for captured plate data from the Department under               |
| 11 | this subdivision (3) shall be in writing and include the name of the requester,  |
| 12 | the law enforcement agency the requester is employed by, and the law             |
| 13 | enforcement agency's Originating Agency Identifier number. The request           |
| 14 | shall describe the legitimate law enforcement purpose for which the data are to  |
| 15 | be used. The Department shall retain all requests and record in writing the      |
| 16 | outcome of the request and any information that was provided to the requester    |
| 17 | or, if applicable, its reasons for denying or not fulfilling the request. The    |
| 18 | Department shall retain the information described in this subdivision (c)(3)(B)  |
| 19 | for at least three years.  |
| 20 | (4) The Department shall not release captured plate data to an                   |
| 21 | out-of-state or Vermont law enforcement agency unless the agency has             |

| 1  | accepted the terms of a user agreement with the Department. The user             |
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| 2  | agreement shall specify the confidentiality, permitted uses, and authorized      |
| 3  | retention periods of the data in accordance with the provisions of this section. |
| 4  | (d) Limitation on retention of captured plate data; exceptions.                  |
| 5  | (1) Except as authorized in this subsection or section 1608 of this title, a     |
| 6  | person shall not retain captured plate data for more than 24 hours. Captured     |
| 7  | plate data not authorized to be retained shall be destroyed.                     |
| 8  | (2) The Department may retain captured plate data for more than 24               |
| 9  | hours if, prior to expiration of the 24-hour period after it receives the data:  |
| 10 | (A) it receives a warrant for the data; or                                       |
| 11 | (B) a comparison of the data with an alert database shows that the               |
| 12 | data are relevant to:  |
| 13 | (i) the commission of a crime, traffic violation, or parking                     |
| 14 | violation, or an ongoing investigation thereof;                                  |
| 15 | (ii) locating or identifying a fugitive; or                                      |
| 16 | (iii) locating a missing or endangered person.                                   |
| 17 | (3) Captured plate data retained by the Department or received by a law          |
| 18 | enforcement agency under this section shall be destroyed no later than           |
| 19 | 18 months after the data's receipt by the Department or agency, unless this      |
| 20 | period is extended under a warrant or pursuant to a preservation order under     |
| 21 | section 1608 of this title.  |

| 1  | (e) Applicability. This section shall not apply to plate data captured              |
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| 2  | outside Vermont and received by a Vermont law enforcement agency from               |
| 3  | jurisdictions outside Vermont. Such data shall be retained and used only for a      |
| 4  | legitimate law enforcement purpose, and in accordance with any requirements         |
| 5  | of the sending agency.  |
| 6  | (f) Penalties.  |
| 7  | (1) A person who knowingly uses an ALPR system or captured plate                    |
| 8  | data in violation of this section or who knowingly violates the confidentiality     |
| 9  | provisions of this section shall be fined not more than \$1,000.00 or imprisoned    |
| 10 | not more than two years, or both.   |
| 11 | (2) A person who knowingly retains captured plate data beyond the time              |
| 12 | limits established under this section and section 1608 of this title shall be fined |
| 13 | not more than \$500.00.   |
| 14 | (g) Reports.  |
| 15 | (1) The Department shall establish a review process to ensure that                  |
| 16 | information obtained through use of ALPR systems is used only for the               |
| 17 | purposes permitted under this section. The Department shall report the results      |
| 18 | of this review annually on or before January 15 to the Senate and House             |
| 19 | Committees on Judiciary. The report shall contain the following information         |
| 20 | based on prior calendar year data:  |

| 1  | (A) the total number of ALPR units being operated in the State and               |
|----|--|
| 2  | the number of units submitting data to the statewide ALPR database;              |
| 3  | (B) the total number of ALPR readings each agency submitted to the               |
| 4  | statewide ALPR database;   |
| 5  | (C) the 12-month cumulative number of ALPR readings retained on                  |
| 6  | the statewide ALPR database for more than 24 hours;                              |
| 7  | (D) the total number of requests made for ALPR data;                             |
| 8  | (E) the total number of requests that resulted in release of                     |
| 9  | information from the statewide ALPR database;                                    |
| 10 | (F) the total number of out-of-state requests; and                               |
| 11 | (G) the total number of out-of-state requests that resulted in release           |
| 12 | of information from the statewide ALPR database.                                 |
| 13 | (2) The Department may adopt rules to implement this section.                    |
| 14 | Sec. 5. 23 V.S.A. § 1608 is amended to read:                                     |
| 15 | § 1608. PRESERVATION OF DATA   |
| 16 | (a) Preservation request.  |
| 17 | (1) A law enforcement agency or the Department of Motor Vehicles                 |
| 18 | may apply to the Criminal Division of the Superior Court for an extension of     |
| 19 | up to 90 days of the 18-month retention period established under subdivision     |
| 20 | 1607(d)(2) 1607a(d)(3) of this title if the agency or Department offers specific |
| 21 | and articulable facts showing that there are reasonable grounds to believe that  |

| 1  | the captured plate data are relevant and material to an ongoing criminal or       |
|----|---|
| 2  | missing persons investigation or to a pending court or Judicial Bureau            |
| 3  | proceeding. Requests for additional 90-day extensions or for longer periods       |
| 4  | may be made to the Superior Court subject to the same standards applicable to     |
| 5  | an initial extension request under this subdivision.                              |
| 6  | (2) A governmental entity law enforcement agency making a                         |
| 7  | preservation request under this section shall submit an affidavit stating:        |
| 8  | (A) the particular camera or cameras for which captured plate data                |
| 9  | must be preserved or the particular license plate for which captured plate data   |
| 10 | must be preserved; and  |
| 11 | (B) the date or dates and time frames for which captured plate data               |
| 12 | must be preserved.  |
| 13 | (b) Captured plate data shall be destroyed on the schedule specified in           |
| 14 | section 1607 of this title if the preservation request is denied or 14 days after |
| 15 | the denial, whichever is later. After the denial of a preservation order and the  |
| 16 | expiration or waiver of all appeal rights or denial on any appeal, captured plate |
| 17 | data shall be destroyed on the schedule specified in section 1607a of this title. |
| 18 | Sec. 6. APPLICABILITY OF ACT TO EXISTING DATA                                     |
| 19 | Secs. 4–5 of this act shall apply to all captured plate data collected by         |
| 20 | ALPR systems operated in Vermont that exists as of July 1, 2015, whether the      |
| 21 | data were collected before or after that date.                                    |

- 1 Sec. 7. EFFECTIVE DATE
- 2 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2015.