

1 H.434

2 Introduced by Representatives Marcotte of Coventry and Botzow of Pownal

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Public safety; Robert H. Wood, Jr. Criminal Justice and Fire Service

6 Training Center of Vermont; Vermont Police Academy; Vermont Fire

7 Academy; Training Safety Council

8 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to establish a  
9 Training Safety Council to make recommendations regarding training safety at  
10 the Vermont Police Academy and the Vermont Fire Academy, and to require  
11 the Executive Director of the Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council and  
12 the Chief Fire Service Training Officer of the Fire Service Training Council to  
13 annually report to legislative committees regarding training safety at those  
14 academies.

15 An act relating to law enforcement and fire service training safety

16 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

17 Sec. 1. 20 V.S.A. Part 7A is added to read:

18 PART 7A.

19 LAW ENFORCEMENT AND FIRE SERVICE TRAINING SAFETY

20 CHAPTER 185. TRAINING SAFETY COUNCIL

1     § 3251. TRAINING SAFETY COUNCIL CREATED

2           (a) Creation. There is created a Training Safety Council to make  
3     recommendations regarding training safety at the Vermont Police Academy  
4     and the Vermont Fire Academy.

5           (b) Membership.

6           (1) The Council shall be composed of the following ten members:

7                   (A) the Commissioner of Labor or his or her designee;

8                   (B) the Risk Management Manager of the Office of Risk  
9     Management within the Agency of Administration;

10                  (C) the Executive Director of the Vermont Criminal Justice Training  
11     Council;

12                  (D) the Chief Fire Service Training Officer of the Vermont Fire  
13     Service Training Council;

14                  (E) one member of an organization representing municipalities who  
15     specializes in risk management, appointed by the Secretary of Administration;

16                  (F) one member of the Vermont Sheriffs' Association, appointed by  
17     the President of the Association;

18                  (G) one member of the Vermont Association of Chiefs of Police,  
19     appointed by the President of the Association;

20                  (H) one member of the State Police, appointed by the Commissioner  
21     of Public Safety;

1           (I) one volunteer firefighter, appointed by the Vermont State  
2           Firefighters Association; and

3           (J) one full-time firefighter, appointed by the Professional Fire  
4           Fighters of Vermont, Inc.

5           (2) Members shall serve terms of two years and until their successors are  
6           appointed, with terms of office beginning on July 1 of each odd-numbered  
7           year. The appointing authority shall fill any vacancy in the office of a member  
8           for the remainder of the unexpired term.

9           (c) Powers and duties. The Council shall annually:

10           (1) on or before February 1, review the safety records of the Vermont  
11           Police Academy and the Vermont Fire Academy; and

12           (2) on or before July 1, submit to the Vermont Police Academy and the  
13           Vermont Fire Academy its recommendations regarding how training safety at  
14           those academies could be improved.

15           (d) Meetings.

16           (1) The Council shall biennially select a chair from among its members.

17           (2) A majority of the membership shall constitute a quorum.

18           (e) Assistance. The Council shall have the administrative, technical, and  
19           legal assistance of the Department of Labor.

20           (f) Compensation and expense reimbursement. Members of the Council  
21           who are not employees of the State of Vermont and who are not otherwise

1 compensated or reimbursed for their attendance shall be entitled to per diem  
2 compensation and reimbursement of expenses pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 1010.

3 § 3252. REVIEW OF TRAINING SAFETY COUNCIL

4 RECOMMENDATIONS; REPORT TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

5 (a) The Executive Director of the Vermont Criminal Justice Training  
6 Council shall review and consider the recommendations the Training Safety  
7 Council made to the Vermont Police Academy, and the Chief Fire Service  
8 Training Officer of the Vermont Fire Service Training Council shall review  
9 and consider the recommendations the Training Safety Council made to the  
10 Vermont Fire Academy, as those recommendations are described in section  
11 3251 of this chapter.

12 (b)(1) Annually, on or before January 15, the Executive Director of the  
13 Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council and the Chief Fire Service  
14 Training Officer of the Vermont Fire Service Training Council shall separately  
15 report to the House Committees on Commerce and Economic Development  
16 and on Judiciary and to the Senate Committees on Economic Development,  
17 Housing and General Affairs and on Judiciary regarding:

18 (A) any training safety issues he or she has discovered at the  
19 Vermont Police Academy or the Vermont Fire Academy, as applicable, and  
20 any steps he or she has taken to remedy those issues; and

1           (B) whether the Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council or the  
2           Vermont Fire Service Training Council, as applicable, has instituted any of the  
3           Training Safety Council's recommendations for training safety and if not, the  
4           reasons therefor.

5           (2) The provisions of 2 V.S.A. § 20(d) (expiration of required reports)  
6           shall not apply to the report required to be made under this subsection.

7           Sec. 2. INITIAL MEETING OF TRAINING SAFETY COUNCIL

8           The Commissioner of Labor shall call the initial meeting of the Training  
9           Safety Council set forth in 20 V.S.A. § 3251 in Sec. 1 of this act, to be held on  
10          or before September 30, 2015.

11          Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

12          This act shall take effect on July 1, 2015.