

1 TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

2 The Committee on Government Operations to which was referred House  
3 Bill No. 130 entitled “An act relating to the Agency of Public Safety”  
4 respectfully reports that it has considered the same and recommends that the  
5 Senate propose to the House that the bill be amended by striking out all after  
6 the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

7 Sec. 1. PUBLIC SAFETY; LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

8 REGULATION; DISPATCH; PUBLIC SAFETY STUDY

9 COMMITTEE; REPORT

10 (a) Creation. There is created a Public Safety Study Committee to make  
11 recommendations to the General Assembly regarding law enforcement officer  
12 regulation and dispatch.

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

15 (1) the Commissioner of Public Safety or designee;

16 (2) the Executive Director of the Vermont Criminal Justice Training  
17 Council or designee;

18 (3) one sheriff appointed by the Executive Committee of the Vermont  
19 Sheriffs’ Association;

20 (4) one member of the Vermont Troopers’ Association, elected by its  
21 membership;

1           (5) one member of the law enforcement officers represented by the  
2           Vermont State Employees' Association, elected by the law enforcement  
3           members;

4           (6) one chief of a municipal police department, appointed by the Chiefs  
5           of Police Association of Vermont;

6           (7) one law enforcement officer appointed by the Vermont Police  
7           Association; and

8           (8) a representative of the Vermont League of Cities and Towns,  
9           appointed by the Executive Director of the League.

10          (c) Issues to study. The Committee shall study the following issues:

11           (1) Law enforcement officer regulation. The current regulation of law  
12           enforcement officers' certification and how that regulation should change,  
13           including:

14           (A) whether each law enforcement agency should be required to have  
15           an effective internal affairs program and, if so, what should be included in that  
16           program;

17           (B) when and under what circumstances a law enforcement agency  
18           should report alleged unprofessional conduct to the Vermont Criminal Justice  
19           Training Council;

1           (C) when the Council should be able to investigate and take further  
2           action on reports of alleged law enforcement officer unprofessional conduct,  
3           including the Council’s ability to suspend summarily an officer; and

4           (D) what types of discipline the Council should be able to impose on  
5           a law enforcement officer’s certification.

6           (2) Dispatch. The manner in which dispatch services are currently  
7           provided and funded and whether there should be any changes to this structure.

8           (d) Report. On or before December 1, 2016, the Committee shall report to  
9           the House and Senate Committees on Government Operations with its findings  
10           and any recommendations for legislative action. The report may be in the form  
11           of proposed legislation.

12           (e) Meetings.

13           (1) The Commissioner of Public Safety shall call the first meeting of the  
14           Committee, to occur on or before August 1, 2016.

15           (2) At its first meeting, the Committee shall elect a Chair from among its  
16           members.

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

18           (B) Notwithstanding 1 V.S.A. § 172, an action may be taken by the  
19           Committee with the assent of a majority of the members attending, assuming a  
20           quorum.

21           (4) The Committee shall cease to exist on December 2, 2016.

1       Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

2               This act shall take effect on passage.

3       and that after passage the title of the bill be amended to read: “An act relating  
4       to a study of law enforcement officer regulation and dispatch”

5

6

7

8       (Committee vote: \_\_\_\_\_)

9

10

\_\_\_\_\_

Senator \_\_\_\_\_

11

FOR THE COMMITTEE

12

13