

• **DRAFT; NOT YET EDITED; FOR COMMITTEE DISCUSSION**

• **COMBINES H.562 & S.217**

• **Key:** **Yellow highlighting** = language potentially added to bills

**Red strikethrough** = language potentially removed from bills

1 TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

2 The Committee on Government Operations to which was referred House  
3 Bill No. 562 entitled “An act relating to professions and occupations regulated  
4 by the Office of Professional Regulation and to the review of professional  
5 regulation” respectfully reports that it has considered the same and  
6 recommends that the Senate propose to the House that the bill be amended by  
7 striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the  
8 following:

9 *Start of H.562*

10 \* \* \* Professional Regulation Review \* \* \*

11 Sec. 1. 26 V.S.A. chapter 57 is amended to read:

12 CHAPTER 57. REVIEW OF ~~LICENSING STATUTES, BOARDS, AND~~  
13 ~~COMMISSIONS~~ REGULATORY LAWS

14 § 3101. POLICY AND PURPOSE

15 (a) It is the policy of the ~~state~~ State of Vermont that regulation be imposed  
16 upon a profession or occupation solely for the purpose of protecting the public.  
17 The ~~legislature~~ General Assembly believes that all individuals should be  
18 permitted to enter into a profession or occupation unless there is a  
19 demonstrated need for the ~~state~~ State to protect the interests of the public by  
20 restricting entry into the profession or occupation.

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1       (b) If such a need is identified, the form of regulation adopted by the ~~state~~  
2       State shall be the least restrictive form of regulation necessary to protect the  
3       public interest. If regulation is imposed, the profession or occupation may be  
4       subject to ~~periodic~~ review by the ~~legislature~~ Office of Professional Regulation  
5       and the General Assembly to ~~insure~~ ensure the continuing need for and  
6       appropriateness of such regulation.

7       § 3101a. DEFINITIONS

8       ~~The definitions contained in this section shall apply throughout~~ As used in  
9       this chapter, unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

10       (1) “Certification” means a voluntary process by which a statutory  
11       regulatory entity grants to ~~an individual,~~ a person who has met certain  
12       prerequisite qualifications; the right to assume or to use the title of the  
13       profession or occupation, or the right to assume or use the term “certified” in  
14       conjunction with the title. Use of the title or the term “certified,” as the case  
15       may be, by a person who is not certified is unlawful.

16       (2) “Licensing” and “licensure” mean a process by which a statutory  
17       regulatory entity grants to ~~an individual,~~ a person who has met certain  
18       prerequisite qualifications; the right to perform prescribed professional ~~and~~ or  
19       occupational tasks and to use the title of the profession or occupation. Practice  
20       without a license is unlawful.

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1 (3) “License” means an individual, nontransferable authorization to  
2 carry on an activity based on qualifications such as:

3 (A) satisfactory completion of or graduation from an accredited or  
4 approved educational or training program; ~~and~~ or

5 (B) acceptable performance on a qualifying examination or series of  
6 examinations.

7 (4) “Office” means the Office of Professional Regulation.

8 (5) “Practitioner” means an individual a person who is actively engaged  
9 in a specified profession or occupation.

10 ~~(5)~~(6) “Public member” means an individual who has no material  
11 financial interest in the profession or occupation being regulated other than as  
12 a consumer.

13 ~~(6)~~(7) “Registration” means a process ~~which requires~~ requiring that,  
14 prior to rendering services, ~~all practitioners~~ a practitioner formally notify a  
15 regulatory entity of ~~their~~ his, her, or its intent to engage in the profession or  
16 occupation. Notification may include the name and address of the practitioner,  
17 the location of the activity to be performed, and a description of the service to  
18 be provided.

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1           (8) “Regulatory entity” means the statutory entity responsible for  
2 regulating a profession or occupation, such as a board or an agency of the  
3 State.

4           ~~(7)(9) “Regulatory law” as used in section 3104 of this title, means any~~  
5 law in this State that requires a person engaged in a profession or occupation to  
6 be registered, certified, or licensed under this title or 4 V.S.A. chapter 23 or  
7 that otherwise regulates the operation of that profession or occupation.

8           § 3102. ~~PERIODIC REVIEW REQUIREMENT~~

9           ~~(a) Each licensing law enumerated below in subsection (b) of this section,~~  
10 ~~each board related thereto, and the activities resulting shall be subject to~~  
11 ~~review, at least once, in the manner provided in section 3104 of this title and~~  
12 ~~on the basis of the criteria in section 3105 of this title.~~

13           ~~(b) The following laws are subject to review:~~

14           ~~(1) Chapter 15 of this title on electricians;~~

15           ~~(2) Chapter 39 of this title on plumbers and plumbing;~~

16           ~~(3) Chapter 28 of this title on nursing;~~

17           ~~(4) Chapter 10 of this title on chiropractic;~~

18           ~~(5) Chapter 6 of this title on barbers;~~

19           ~~(6) Chapter 6 of this title on cosmeticians and hairdressers;~~

20           ~~(7) Chapter 23 of this title on medicine and surgery;~~

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- 1           ~~(8) Chapter 33 of this title on osteopathic physicians and surgeons;~~
- 2           ~~(9) Chapter 13 of this title on dentists and dental hygienists;~~
- 3           ~~(10) 18 V.S.A. chapter 46 on nursing home administrators;~~
- 4           ~~(11) Chapter 17 of this title on embalmers;~~
- 5           ~~(12) Chapter 21 of this title on funeral directors;~~
- 6           ~~(13) Chapter 44 of this title on veterinary science;~~
- 7           ~~(14) Chapter 1 of this title on accountants;~~
- 8           ~~(15) Chapter 59 of this title on private detectives;~~
- 9           ~~(16) Chapter 55 of this title on psychologists;~~
- 10          ~~(17) Chapter 36 of this title on pharmacy;~~
- 11          ~~(18) Chapter 51 of this title on radiological technologists;~~
- 12          ~~(19) Chapter 41 of this title on real estate brokers and salesmen;~~
- 13          ~~(20) Chapter 20 of this title on engineering;~~
- 14          ~~(21) Chapter 3 of this title on architects;~~
- 15          ~~(22) Chapter 45 of this title on land surveyors;~~
- 16          ~~(23) Chapter 31 of this title on physicians' assistants;~~
- 17          ~~(24) Chapter 7 of this title on podiatry;~~
- 18          ~~(25) 4 V.S.A. chapter 23 on attorneys;~~
- 19          ~~(26) Chapter 47 of this title on opticians;~~
- 20          ~~(27) Chapter 65 of this title on clinical mental health counselors;~~

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1           ~~(28) Chapter 67 of this title on hearing aid dispensers;~~

2           ~~(29) Chapter 79 of this title on tattooists;~~

3           ~~(30) Chapter 81 of this title on naturopathic physicians;~~

4           ~~(31) Chapter 83 of this title on athletic trainers;~~

5           ~~(32) Chapter 87 of this title on audiologists and speech language~~  
6 ~~pathologists.~~

7           ~~(c) Any new law to regulate another profession or occupation shall be~~  
8 ~~based on the relevant criteria and standards in section 3105 of this title.~~

9           ~~[Repealed.]~~

10          § 3104. PROCESS FOR REVIEW OF REGULATORY LAWS

11           ~~(a) Either house of the general assembly may designate, by resolution, The~~  
12 ~~Office may review a regulatory law ~~or an issue that affects professions and~~~~  
13 ~~occupations generally to be reviewed by the legislative council staff that is~~  
14 ~~within its jurisdiction, and shall review any regulatory law within or outside its~~  
15 ~~jurisdiction upon the request of the House or Senate Committee on~~  
16 ~~Government Operations. The ~~staff~~ Office shall base its review on the criteria~~  
17 ~~and standards set forth in section 3105 of this ~~title~~ chapter.~~

18           ~~(b) The review ~~may~~ shall also include the following inquiries in the~~  
19 ~~discretion of the Office or in response to a Committee request:~~

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1           (1) the extent to which ~~the board's~~ a regulatory entity's actions have  
2           been in the public interest and consistent with legislative intent;

3           (2) the extent to which the ~~board's rules are complete, concise, and easy~~  
4           ~~to understand~~ profession's historical performance, including the actual history  
5           of complaints and disciplinary actions in Vermont, indicates that the costs of  
6           regulation are justified by the realized benefits to the public;

7           (3) the extent to which the ~~board's standards and procedures are fair and~~  
8           ~~reasonable and accurately measure an applicant's qualifications~~ scope of the  
9           existing regulatory scheme for the profession is commensurate to the risk of  
10          harm to the public;

11          (4) the extent to which the profession's education, training, and  
12          examination requirements for a license or certification are consistent with the  
13          public interest;

14          (5) ~~the way in which the board receives, investigates, and resolves~~  
15          ~~complaints from the public~~ the extent to which a regulatory entity's resolutions  
16          of complaints and disciplinary actions have been effective to protect the public;

17          (5)(6) the extent to which ~~the board~~ a regulatory entity has sought ideas  
18          from the public and from those it regulates, concerning reasonable ways to  
19          improve the service of the ~~board~~ entity and the profession or occupation  
20          regulated;

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1           ~~(6)~~(7) the extent to which ~~the board~~ a regulatory entity gives adequate  
2 public notice of its hearings and meetings and encourages public participation;

3           ~~(7)~~(8) whether ~~the board~~ a regulatory entity makes efficient and  
4 effective use of its funds; and meets its responsibilities; and

5           ~~(8)~~(9) whether ~~the board~~ a regulatory entity has sufficient funding to  
6 carry out its mandate.

7           (c)(1) The ~~legislative council staff~~ Office shall give adequate notice to the  
8 public, the ~~board~~ applicable regulatory entity, and the appropriate professional  
9 societies that it is reviewing a particular regulatory law and board, as  
10 applicable, that regulatory entity. Notice to the ~~board~~ regulatory entity and the  
11 professional societies shall be in writing.

12           (2) ~~All~~ The regulatory entity shall provide to the Office the information  
13 required under described in section 3107 of this title chapter and available data  
14 reasonably requested the Office requests for purposes of the review ~~shall be~~  
15 ~~provided by the boards.~~

16           (3) The staff Office shall seek comments and information from the  
17 public and from members of the profession or occupation. It also shall give the  
18 ~~board~~ regulatory entity a chance to present its position and to respond to any  
19 matters raised in the review.



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1           (4) The staff Office, upon its request, shall have assistance from the  
2 ~~department of finance and management~~ Department of Finance and  
3 Management, the ~~auditor of accounts~~ Auditor of Accounts, the ~~attorney~~  
4 ~~general, the director of the office of professional regulation~~ Attorney General,  
5 the ~~joint fiscal committee~~ Joint Fiscal Committee, or any other ~~state~~ State  
6 agency.

7           (d)(1) The ~~legislative council staff~~ Office shall file a separate written report  
8 for each review with the ~~speaker of the house and president of the senate and~~  
9 ~~with the chairman of the appropriate house or senate committee as provided in~~  
10 ~~subsection (f) of this section~~ House and Senate Committees on Government  
11 Operations, any legislative committees of jurisdiction for the underlying field  
12 of regulation, and the applicable regulatory entity. The reports shall contain:

13           ~~(1)~~(A) findings, alternative courses of action, and recommendations;;

14           ~~(2)~~(B) a copy of the ~~board's~~ regulatory entity's administrative rules;;

15 and

16           ~~(3)~~(C) appropriate legislative proposals.

17           (2)(A) If the review is regard to a regulatory law outside its jurisdiction,  
18 the Office shall submit the report in conjunction with the agency with  
19 jurisdiction over the licensing of the relevant profession.

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1            **(B) In the event the Office and the agency with jurisdiction do not**  
2 **agree to any aspects of the report, the report shall incorporate separate**  
3 **responses of the Office and that agency.**

4            ~~(e) The legislative council staff shall send a copy of the report to the board~~  
5 ~~affected, and shall make copies available for public inspection. [Repealed.]~~

6            ~~(f) The house and senate committees on government operations shall be~~  
7 ~~responsible for overseeing the preparation of reports by the legislative council~~  
8 ~~staff under this chapter. [Repealed.]~~

9            ~~(g) After considering a report each committee shall send its findings and~~  
10 ~~recommendations, including proposals for legislation, if any, to the house or to~~  
11 ~~the senate, as appropriate. Any proposed licensing law shall be drafted~~  
12 ~~according to a uniform format recommended in the comprehensive plan.~~  
13 ~~[Repealed.]~~

14 § 3105. CRITERIA AND STANDARDS

15            (a) A profession or occupation shall be regulated by the State only when:

16                    (1) it can be demonstrated that the unregulated practice of the profession  
17 or occupation can clearly harm or endanger the health, safety, or welfare of the  
18 public, and the potential for the harm is recognizable and not remote or  
19 speculative;

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1           (2) the public can reasonably be expected to benefit from an assurance  
2 of initial and continuing professional ability; and

3           (3) the public cannot be effectively protected by other means.

4           (b) After evaluating the criteria in subsection (a) of this section and  
5 considering governmental and societal costs and benefits, if the ~~Legislature~~  
6 General Assembly finds that it is necessary to regulate a profession or  
7 occupation, the least restrictive method of regulation shall be imposed,  
8 consistent with the public interest and this section:

9           (1) if existing common law and statutory civil remedies and criminal  
10 sanctions are insufficient to reduce or eliminate existing harm, regulation  
11 should occur through enactment of stronger civil remedies and criminal  
12 sanctions;

13           (2) if a professional or occupational service involves a threat to the  
14 public and the service is performed primarily through business entities or  
15 facilities that are not regulated, the business entity or the facility should be  
16 regulated rather than its employee practitioners;

17           (3) if the threat to the public health, safety, or welfare, including  
18 economic welfare, is relatively small, regulation should be through a system of  
19 registration;

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1 (4) if the consumer may have a substantial interest in relying on the  
2 qualifications of the practitioner, regulation should be through a system of  
3 certification; or

4 (5) if it is apparent that the public cannot be adequately protected by any  
5 other means, a system of licensure should be imposed.

6 (c) Any of the issues set forth in subsections (a) and (b) of this section and  
7 section 3107 of this ~~title~~ chapter may be considered in terms of their  
8 application to professions or occupations generally.

9 (d) Prior to review under this chapter and consideration by the General  
10 Assembly of any bill to regulate a profession or occupation and upon the  
11 request of the House or Senate Committee on Government Operations, the  
12 ~~Office of Professional Regulation~~ shall make, in writing, a preliminary  
13 assessment of whether any particular request for regulation meets the criteria  
14 set forth in subsection (a) of this section. The Office shall report its  
15 preliminary assessment to the appropriate House or Senate Committee on  
16 Government Operations. ~~The provisions of 2 V.S.A. § 20(d) (expiration of~~  
17 ~~required reports) shall not apply to the report to be made under this subsection.~~

18 (e) After the review of a proposal to regulate a profession, the Office of  
19 ~~Professional Regulation~~ may decline to conduct an analysis and evaluation of  
20 the proposed regulation if it finds that:

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1 (1) the proposed regulatory scheme appears to regulate fewer than  
2 250 individuals; and

3 (2) the Office previously conducted an analysis and evaluation of the  
4 proposed regulation of the same profession or occupation, and no new  
5 information has been submitted that would cause the Office to alter or modify  
6 the recommendations made in its earlier report on ~~the~~ that proposed regulation  
7 ~~of the profession.~~

8 § 3106. DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL  
9 REGULATION; ANNUAL REPORT

10 (a) Annually, prior to the commencement of each legislative session, the  
11 ~~Director of the Office of Professional Regulation shall prepare a concise report~~  
12 ~~on the activities of all boards and advisor professions under his or her~~  
13 ~~jurisdiction. Prior to the commencement of each legislative session, the~~  
14 ~~Director shall prepare a report for publication on the Office's website~~  
15 ~~containing~~ The report shall include his or her assessments, conclusions, and  
16 recommendations ~~with proposals for legislation, if any, to the Speaker of the~~  
17 ~~House and to the Chairpersons of the House and Senate Committees on~~  
18 ~~Government Operations and the chairpersons of the boards~~ regarding those  
19 boards and advisor professions.

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1       (b) ~~The Office~~ Director shall publish the report on the Office’s website and  
2 shall also provide written copies of the report to the House and Senate  
3 Committees on Government Operations.

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

6 § 3107. INFORMATION REQUIRED

7       Prior to review under this chapter and prior to consideration by the  
8 ~~legislature~~ General Assembly of any bill ~~which~~ that proposes to regulate a  
9 profession or occupation, the profession or occupation being reviewed or  
10 seeking regulation shall explain each of the following factors, in writing, to the  
11 extent requested by the ~~appropriate house or senate committees on government~~  
12 ~~operations~~ House or Senate Committee on Government Operations:

13       (1) Why regulation is necessary, including:

14           (A) the nature of the potential harm or threat to the public if the  
15 profession or occupation is not regulated;

16           (B) specific examples of the harm or threat identified in subdivision

17 (1)(A) of this section;

18           (C) the extent to which consumers will benefit from a method of  
19 regulation ~~which~~ that permits identification of competent practitioners,  
20 indicating typical employers, if any, of practitioners;

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1 (2) The extent to which practitioners are autonomous, as indicated by:

2 (A) the degree to which the profession or occupation requires the use  
3 of independent judgment, and the skill or experience required in making such  
4 judgment;

5 (B) the degree to which practitioners are supervised;

6 (3) The efforts that have been made to address the concerns that give  
7 rise to the need for regulation, including:

8 (A) voluntary efforts, if any, by members of the profession or  
9 occupation to:

10 (i) establish a code of ethics;

11 (ii) help resolve disputes between practitioners and consumers;

12 (iii) establish requirements for continuing education.

13 (B) recourse to and the extent of use of existing law;

14 (4) Why the alternatives to licensure specified in this subdivision would  
15 not be adequate to protect the public interest:

16 (A) stronger civil remedies or criminal sanctions;

17 (B) regulation of the business entity or facility providing the service  
18 rather than the employee practitioners;

19 (C) regulation of the program or service rather than the individual  
20 practitioners;

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1 (D) registration of all practitioners;

2 (E) certification of practitioners;

3 (F) other alternatives;

4 (5) The benefit to the public if regulation is granted, including:

5 (A) how regulation will result in reduction or elimination of the  
6 harms or threats identified under subdivision (1) of this section;

7 (B) the extent to which the public can be confident that a practitioner  
8 is competent:

9 (i) whether the registration, certification, or licensure will carry an  
10 expiration date;

11 (ii) whether renewal will be based only upon payment of a fee, or  
12 whether renewal will involve reexamination, peer review, or other  
13 enforcement;

14 (iii) the standards for registration, certification, or licensure as  
15 compared with the standards of other jurisdictions;

16 (iv) the nature and duration of the educational requirement, if any,  
17 including, ~~but not limited to,~~ whether ~~such~~ the educational program  
18 requirement includes a substantial amount of supervised field experience;

19 whether educational programs exist in this ~~state~~ State; whether there will be an  
20 experience requirement; whether the experience must be acquired under a



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1 registered, certified, or licensed practitioner; whether there are alternative  
2 routes of entry or methods of satisfying the eligibility requirements and  
3 qualifications; whether all applicants will be required to pass an examination;  
4 and, if an examination is required, by whom it will be developed and how the  
5 costs of development will be met;

6 (6) The form and powers of the regulatory entity, including:

7 (A) whether the regulatory entity is or would be a board composed of  
8 members of the profession or occupation and public members, or a ~~state~~ State  
9 agency, or both, and, if appropriate, their respective responsibilities in  
10 administering the system of registration, certification, or licensure;

11 (B) the composition of the board, if any, and the number of public  
12 members, if any;

13 (C) the powers and duties of the ~~board or state agency~~ regulatory  
14 entity regarding examinations;

15 (D) the system for receiving complaints and taking disciplinary  
16 action against practitioners;

17 (7) The extent to which regulation might harm the public, including:

18 (A) whether regulation will restrict entry into the profession or  
19 occupation, including:

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1 (i) whether the standards are the least restrictive necessary to  
2 ~~insure~~ ensure safe and effective performance; and

3 (ii) whether persons who are registered, certified, or licensed in a  
4 another jurisdiction ~~which~~ that the ~~board or agency~~ regulatory entity believes  
5 has requirements that are substantially equivalent to those of this ~~state~~ State  
6 will be eligible for endorsement or some form of reciprocity;

7 (B) whether there are similar professions or occupations ~~which~~ that  
8 should be included, or portions of the profession or occupation ~~which~~ that  
9 should be excluded from regulation;

10 (8) How the standards of the profession or occupation will be  
11 maintained, including:

12 (A) whether effective quality assurance standards exist in the  
13 profession or occupation, such as legal requirements associated with specific  
14 programs that define or enforce standards, or a code of ethics; and

15 (B) how the proposed form of regulation will assure quality,  
16 including:

17 (i) the extent to which a code of ethics, if any, will be  
18 adopted; and

19 (ii) the grounds for suspension, revocation, or refusal to renew  
20 registration, certification, or licensure;

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1 (9) A profile of the practitioners in this ~~state~~ State, including a list of  
2 associations, organizations, and other groups representing the practitioners and  
3 including an estimate of the number of practitioners in each group.

4 (10) The effect that registration, certification, or licensure will have on  
5 the costs of the services to the public.

6 \* \* \* Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselors \* \* \*

7 Sec. 2. 3 V.S.A. § 122 is amended to read:

8 § 122. OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

9 An Office of Professional Regulation is created within the Office of the  
10 Secretary of State. The Office shall have a Director who shall be appointed by  
11 the Secretary of State and shall be an exempt employee. The following boards  
12 or professions are attached to the Office of Professional Regulation:

13 \* \* \*

14 (45) Alcohol and drug abuse counselors.

15 Sec. 3. 18 V.S.A. § 4806 is amended to read:

16 § 4806. DIVISION OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE PROGRAMS

17 (a) The Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs shall plan, operate,  
18 and evaluate a consistent, effective program of substance abuse programs. All  
19 duties, responsibilities, and authority of the Division shall be carried out and  
20 exercised by and within the Department of Health.

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1 (b) The Division shall be responsible for the following services:

2 (1) prevention and intervention;

3 (2) ~~licensure of alcohol and drug counselors;~~ [Repealed.]

4 (3) project CRASH schools; and

5 (4) alcohol and drug treatment.

6 \* \* \*

7 (e) ~~Under subdivision (b)(4) of this section, the Commissioner of Health~~  
8 ~~may contract with the Secretary of State for provision of adjudicative services~~  
9 ~~of one or more administrative law officers and other investigative, legal, and~~  
10 ~~administrative services related to licensure and discipline of alcohol and drug~~  
11 ~~counselors.~~ [Repealed.]

12 Sec. 4. 26 V.S.A. chapter 62 is amended to read:

13 CHAPTER 62. ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE COUNSELORS

14 § 3231. DEFINITIONS

15 As used in this chapter:

16 (1) “Alcohol and drug abuse counselor” means a person who engages in  
17 the practice of alcohol and drug abuse counseling for compensation.

18 (2) ~~“Commissioner” means the Commissioner of Health~~ “Director”  
19 means the Director of the Office of Professional Regulation.

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1           (3) ~~“Deputy Commissioner”~~ means the Deputy Commissioner of the  
2           ~~Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs~~ “Office” means the Office of  
3           Professional Regulation.

4           (4) ~~“Disciplinary action”~~ means any action taken by the administrative  
5           ~~law officer appointed pursuant to 3 V.S.A. § 129(j)~~ against a licensee or  
6           ~~applicant based on a finding of unprofessional conduct by the licensee or~~  
7           ~~applicant. “Disciplinary action”~~ includes issuance of warnings and all  
8           ~~sanctions, including denial, suspension, revocation, limitation, or restriction of~~  
9           ~~licenses and other similar limitations. [Repealed.]~~

10           (5) “Practice of alcohol and drug abuse counseling” means the  
11           application of methods, including psychotherapy, ~~which~~ that assist an  
12           individual or group to develop an understanding of alcohol and drug abuse  
13           dependency problems and to define goals and plan actions reflecting the  
14           individual’s or group’s interests, abilities, and needs as affected by alcohol and  
15           drug abuse dependency problems and comorbid conditions.

16           (6) “Supervision” means the oversight of a person for the purposes of  
17           teaching, training, or clinical review by a ~~professional in the same area of~~  
18           ~~specialized practice~~ licensed alcohol and drug abuse counselor or a qualified  
19           supervisor as determined by the Director by rule.

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1 § 3232. PROHIBITION; PENALTIES

2 (a) ~~No~~ A person shall not perform either of the following acts:

3 (1) practice or attempt to practice alcohol and drug abuse counseling  
4 without a valid license issued in accordance with this chapter, except as  
5 otherwise provided in section 3233 of this ~~title~~ chapter; or

6 (2) use in connection with the person's name any letters, words, or  
7 insignia indicating or implying that the person is an alcohol and drug abuse  
8 counselor, unless the person is licensed or certified in accordance with this  
9 chapter.

10 (b) A person who violates any of the provisions of this section shall be  
11 subject to the penalties provided in 3 V.S.A. § 127~~(e)~~.

12 § 3233. EXEMPTIONS

13 The provisions of subdivision 3232(a)(1) of this chapter, relating to the  
14 practice of alcohol and drug abuse counseling, shall not apply to:

15 (1) the activities and services of a rabbi, priest, minister, Christian  
16 Science practitioner, or clergy of any religious denomination or sect when  
17 engaging in activities that are within the scope of the performance of the  
18 person's regular or specialized ministerial duties and for which no separate  
19 charge is made, or when these activities are performed, with or without charge,  
20 for or under the auspices or sponsorship, individually or in conjunction with

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1 others, of an established and legally recognizable church, denomination, or sect  
2 and when the person rendering services remains accountable to the established  
3 authority of that church, denomination, or sect;

4 (2) the activities and services of a person licensed, certified, or  
5 registered under other laws of this State while acting within the scope of his or  
6 her profession or occupation, provided the person does not hold himself or  
7 herself out to the public as possessing a license issued pursuant to this chapter;

8 (3) the activities and services of a student intern or trainee in alcohol and  
9 drug abuse counseling who is pursuing a course of study in an accredited  
10 institution of higher education or a training course approved by the Director,  
11 provided these activities are performed under supervision of and constitute a  
12 part of an approved course of study;

13 (4) the activities and services of ~~approved alcohol and drug abuse~~  
14 counselors an individual certified under this chapter who are is working in a  
15 preferred provider program under the supervision of a licensed alcohol and  
16 drug abuse counselor; or

17 (5) a person acting as a member of a voluntary group of individuals who  
18 offer peer support to each other in recovering from an addiction.

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1 § 3234. COORDINATION OF PRACTICE ACTS

2 Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, a person may practice  
3 psychotherapy when acting within the scope of a license or certification  
4 granted under this chapter, provided he or she does not hold himself or herself  
5 out as a practitioner of a profession for which he or she is not licensed or  
6 certified.

7 § 3235. ~~DEPUTY COMMISSIONER~~ DIRECTOR; DUTIES

8 (a) ~~The Deputy Commissioner~~ In addition to the authority granted under  
9 3 V.S.A. chapter 5, the Director shall:

10 (1) provide general information to applicants for licensure ~~as alcohol~~  
11 ~~and drug abuse counselors~~ or certification under this chapter;

12 (2) administer fees collected under this chapter;

13 (3) ~~administer examinations~~ refer complaints and disciplinary matters to  
14 an administrative law officer established under 3 V.S.A. § 129(j);

15 (4) explain appeal procedures to licensees, certified individuals, and  
16 applicants for licensure or certification under this chapter; and

17 (5) receive applications for licensure or certification under this chapter;  
18 issue and renew licenses or certifications; and revoke, suspend, reinstate, or  
19 condition licenses or certifications as ordered by an administrative law  
20 officer; ~~and~~



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1           ~~(6) contract with the Office of Professional Regulation to adopt and~~  
2 ~~explain complaint procedures to the public, manage case processing,~~  
3 ~~investigate complaints, and refer adjudicatory proceedings to an administrative~~  
4 ~~law officer.~~

5           (b) The ~~Commissioner of Health, with the advice of the Deputy~~  
6 ~~Commissioner, Director~~ may adopt rules necessary to perform the ~~Deputy~~  
7 ~~Commissioner's Director's~~ duties under this section, including rules:

8                 (1) Specifying acceptable master's degree requirements.

9                 (2) Setting standards for certifying apprentice addiction professionals  
10 and alcohol and drug abuse counselors.

11                (3) Requiring completion and documentation of not more than 40 hours  
12 of acceptable continuing education every two years as a condition for license  
13 or certification renewal.

14                (4) Requiring licensed alcohol and drug abuse counselors to disclose to  
15 each client the licensee's professional qualifications and experience, those  
16 actions that constitute unprofessional conduct, the method for filing a  
17 complaint or making a consumer inquiry, and provisions relating to the manner  
18 in which the information shall be displayed and signed by both the licensee and  
19 the client. The rules may include provisions for applying or modifying these

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1 requirements in cases involving clients of preferred providers, institutionalized  
2 clients, minors, and adults under the supervision of a guardian.

3 (5) Regarding ethical standards for individuals licensed or certified  
4 under this chapter.

5 (6) Regarding display of license or certification.

6 (7) Regarding reinstatement of a license or certification which has  
7 lapsed for more than five years.

8 (8) Regarding supervised practice toward licensure or certification.

9 § 3235a. ADVISOR APPOINTEES

10 (a) The Secretary of State shall appoint three individuals licensed under  
11 this chapter to serve as advisors in matters relating to alcohol and drug abuse  
12 counselors. Advisors shall be appointed as set forth in 3 V.S.A. § 129b. Two  
13 of the initial appointments may be for less than a full term.

14 (b) Appointees shall not have less than three years' licensed experience as  
15 an alcohol and drug abuse counselor in Vermont.

16 (c) The Director shall seek the advice of the advisors appointed under this  
17 section in carrying out the provisions of this chapter.

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1 § 3236. LICENSED ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE COUNSELOR

2 ELIGIBILITY

3 (a) To be eligible for licensure as an alcohol and drug abuse counselor, an  
4 applicant shall:

5 (1) have received a master's degree or doctorate in a human services  
6 field from an accredited educational institution, including a degree in  
7 counseling, social work, psychology, or in an allied mental health field, or a  
8 master's degree or higher in a health care profession regulated under this title  
9 or Title 33, after having successfully completed a course of study with course  
10 work, including theories of human development, diagnostic and counseling  
11 techniques, and professional ethics, and ~~which includes~~ a supervised clinical  
12 practicum; and

13 ~~(2)(A) have been awarded an approved counselor credential from the~~  
14 ~~Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs in accordance with rules~~  
15 ~~adopted by the Commissioner~~ hold or be qualified to hold a current alcohol and  
16 drug counselor certification from the Office; or

17 (B) hold an International Certification and Reciprocity Consortium  
18 certification from another U.S. or Canadian jurisdiction or a U.S. or Canadian  
19 national certification organization approved by the Director;

20 (3) successfully pass the examination approved by the Director; and

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1           (4) complete 2,000 hours of supervised practice as set forth in rule.

2           (b) A person who is engaged in supervised practice toward licensure who is  
3           not within the preferred provider network shall be registered on the roster of  
4           nonlicensed and noncertified psychotherapists.

5           § 3236a. CERTIFICATION OF APPRENTICE ADDICTION

6                   PROFESSIONALS AND ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE

7                   COUNSELORS

8           (a) The Director may certify an individual who has met requirements set by  
9           the Director by rule as:

10                   (1) an apprentice addiction professional; or

11                   (2) an alcohol and drug abuse counselor.

12           (b) The Director may seek cooperation with the International Certification  
13           and Reciprocity Consortium or other recognized alcohol and drug abuse  
14           provider credentialing organizations as a resource for examinations and  
15           rulemaking.

16           § 3236b. LICENSURE OR CERTIFICATION BY ENDORSEMENT

17           The Director may issue a license or certification to an individual under this  
18           chapter if the individual holds a license or certification from a U.S. or  
19           Canadian jurisdiction that the Director finds has requirements for licensure or

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1 certification that are substantially equivalent to those required under this  
2 chapter.

3 § 3237. APPLICATION

4 ~~An individual may apply for a license under this chapter by filing, with the~~  
5 ~~Deputy Commissioner, an application provided by the Deputy Commissioner.~~  
6 ~~The application shall be accompanied by the required fees and evidence of~~  
7 ~~eligibility. [Repealed.]~~

8 § 3238. BIENNIAL RENEWALS

9 (a) Licenses and certifications shall be renewed every two years on a  
10 schedule set by the Office upon:

11 (1) payment of the required fee, provided the person applying for  
12 renewal completes; and

13 (2) documentation that the applicant has completed at least 40 hours of  
14 continuing education, approved by the Deputy Commissioner, during the  
15 preceding two-year period. The Deputy Commissioner shall establish, by rule,  
16 guidelines and criteria for continuing education credit Director.

17 (b) ~~Biennially, the Deputy Commissioner shall forward a renewal form to~~  
18 ~~each license holder. Upon receipt of the completed form and the renewal fee,~~  
19 ~~the Deputy Commissioner shall issue a new license. [Repealed.]~~

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1 (c) Any application for ~~renewal~~ reinstatement of a license ~~which or~~  
2 certification that has expired shall be accompanied by the ~~renewal fee and a~~  
3 ~~reinstatement fee~~ appropriate fees. A person shall not be required to pay  
4 renewal fees for years during which the license or certification was lapsed.

5 (d) ~~The Commissioner of Health may, after notice and opportunity for~~  
6 ~~hearing, revoke a person's right to renew a license if the license has lapsed for~~  
7 ~~five or more years.~~ [Repealed.]

8 § 3239. UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

9 The following conduct and the conduct set forth in 3 V.S.A. § 129a, by a  
10 person authorized to provide alcohol and drug abuse services under this  
11 chapter or an applicant for licensure or certification, constitutes unprofessional  
12 conduct:

13 (1) violation of any provision of this chapter or rule adopted under this  
14 chapter;

15 (2) failing to use a complete title in professional activity;

16 (3) conduct which evidences moral unfitness to practice alcohol and  
17 drug abuse counseling;

18 (4) negligent, incompetent, or wrongful conduct in the practice of  
19 alcohol and drug abuse counseling; or

20 (5) harassing, intimidating, or abusing a client; ~~or~~

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1           ~~(6) agreeing with any other person or organization or subscribing to any~~  
2 ~~code of ethics or organizational bylaws when the intent or primary effect of~~  
3 ~~that agreement, code, or bylaw is to restrict or limit the flow of information~~  
4 ~~concerning alleged or suspected unprofessional conduct to the Director.~~

5           § 3240. ~~REGULATORY FEE FUND~~

6           ~~(a) An Alcohol and Drug Counselor Regulatory Fee Fund is created. All~~  
7 ~~counselor licensing and examination fees received by the Division shall be~~  
8 ~~deposited into the Fund and used to offset the costs incurred by the Division~~  
9 ~~for these purposes and for the costs of investigations and disciplinary~~  
10 ~~proceedings.~~

11           ~~(b) To ensure that revenues derived by the Division are adequate to offset~~  
12 ~~the cost of regulation, the Commissioner of Health and the Deputy~~  
13 ~~Commissioner shall review fees from time to time and present proposed fee~~  
14 ~~changes to the General Assembly. [Repealed.]~~

15           § 3241. FEES

16           In addition to the fees otherwise authorized by law, the ~~Deputy~~  
17 ~~Commissioner~~ Director may charge the following fees:

18           ~~(1) Late renewal penalty, \$25.00 for a renewal submitted less than 30~~  
19 ~~days late. Thereafter, the Deputy Commissioner may increase the late renewal~~

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1 penalty by \$5.00 for every additional month or fraction of a month, provided

2 that the total penalty for a late renewal shall not exceed \$100.00.

3 (2) ~~Reinstatement of revoked or suspended license, \$20.00.~~

4 (3) ~~Replacement of license, \$20.00.~~

5 (4) ~~Verification of license, \$20.00.~~

6 (5) ~~An examination fee established by the Deputy Commissioner, which~~

7 ~~shall be no greater than the costs associated with examinations.~~

8 (6) ~~Licenses granted under rules adopted pursuant to 3 V.S.A.~~

9 ~~§ 129(a)(10), \$20.00.~~

10 (7) ~~Application for registration, \$75.00.~~

11 (8) ~~Application for licensure or certification, \$100.00.~~

12 (9) ~~Biennial renewal, \$135.00.~~

13 (10) ~~Limited temporary license or work permit, \$50.00 for professions~~

14 ~~regulated by the Director as set forth in 3 V.S.A. § 125.~~

15 \* \* \*

16 Sec. 5. TRANSITIONAL PROVISION; CURRENT CERTIFICATION

17 Notwithstanding the provisions of 26 V.S.A. § 3236a(a) set forth in Sec. 4

18 of this act, an individual currently certified by the Vermont Alcohol and Drug

19 Abuse Certification Board as an apprentice addiction professional or an

20 alcohol and drug abuse counselor may renew his or her certification as if



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1 previously granted to him or her by the Director of the Office of Professional

2 Regulation pursuant to rules adopted by the Director.

3 Sec. 6. DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL

4 REGULATION; REQUIRED RULEMAKING

5 The Director of the Office of Professional Regulation may adopt any rules

6 necessary to implement the provisions of Secs. 4 and 5 of this act, prior to the

7 effective date of those sections.

8 \* \* \* Naturopathic Physicians \* \* \*

9 Sec. 7. 2012 Acts and Resolves No. 116, Sec. 64(e), as amended by 2015 Acts  
10 and Resolves No. 38, Sec. 42, is amended to read:

11 (e) Formulary sunset; transition to examination.

12 (1) Subsection (c) of this section (formulary authorization) shall be  
13 repealed on July 1, ~~2016~~ 2017.

14 (2) Any naturopathic physician who is authorized to prescribe, dispense,  
15 and administer any prescription medicines under subsection (c) of this section  
16 shall have until July 1, ~~2016~~ 2017 to successfully complete the naturopathic  
17 pharmacology examination set forth in 26 V.S.A. § 4125(d) in order to be able  
18 to continue to prescribe, dispense, and administer any prescription medicines.

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1           \* \* \* Potable Water Supply and Wastewater System Designers and  
2    Pollution Abatement Facility Operators \* \* \*

3       Sec. 8. 10 V.S.A. § 1263 is amended to read:

4       § 1263. DISCHARGE PERMITS

5    \* \* \*

6       (d) A discharge permit shall:

7           (1) ~~specify~~ Specify the manner, nature, volume, and frequency of the  
8       discharge permitted and contain terms and conditions consistent with  
9       subsection (c) of this section;

10          (2) ~~require~~ Require proper operation and maintenance of any pollution  
11       abatement facility necessary in the treatment or processing of the waste by  
12       qualified personnel in accordance with standards established by the ~~secretary~~  
13       Secretary and the Director of the Office of Professional Regulation. The  
14       ~~secretary~~ Secretary may require ~~operators to be certified under a program~~  
15       established by the secretary that a pollution abatement facility be operated by  
16       persons licensed under 26 V.S.A. chapter 97 and may prescribe the class of  
17       license required. The ~~secretary~~ Secretary may require a laboratory quality  
18       assurance sample program to ~~insure~~ ensure qualifications of laboratory  
19       analysts;

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1 (3) ~~contain~~ Contain an operation, management, and emergency response  
2 plan when required under section 1278 of this title and additional conditions,  
3 requirements, and restrictions as the ~~secretary~~ Secretary deems necessary to  
4 preserve and protect the quality of the receiving waters, including ~~but not~~  
5 ~~limited to~~ requirements concerning recording, reporting, monitoring, and  
6 inspection of the operation and maintenance of waste treatment facilities and  
7 waste collection systems; ~~and.~~

8 (4) ~~be~~ Be valid for the period of time specified therein, not to exceed  
9 five years.

10 \* \* \*

11 Sec. 9. 10 V.S.A. § 1975 is amended to read:

12 § 1975. DESIGNER LICENSES

13 (a) The ~~secretary~~ Director of the Office of Professional Regulation, after  
14 due consultation with the Secretary, shall establish and implement a process to  
15 license and periodically renew the licenses of designers of potable water  
16 supplies or wastewater systems, establish different classes of licensing for  
17 different potable water supplies and wastewater systems, and allow individuals  
18 to be licensed in various categories.

19 (b) ~~No~~ A person shall not design a potable water supply or wastewater  
20 system that requires a permit under this chapter without first obtaining a

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1 designer license from the ~~secretary~~ Director of the Office of Professional  
2 Regulation, except a professional engineer who is licensed in Vermont shall be  
3 deemed to have a valid designer license under this chapter, provided that:

4 (1) the engineer is practicing within the scope of his or her engineering  
5 specialty; and

6 (2) the engineer:

7 (A) to design a soil-based wastewater system, has satisfactorily  
8 completed a college-level soils identification course with specific instruction in  
9 the areas of soils morphology, genesis, texture, permeability, color, and  
10 redoximorphic features; or

11 (B) has passed a soils identification test administered by the ~~secretary~~  
12 Secretary; or

13 (C) retains one or more licensed designers who have taken the course  
14 specified in this subdivision or passed the soils identification test, whenever  
15 performing work regulated under this chapter.

16 (c) ~~No person shall review or act on permit applications for a potable water~~  
17 ~~supply or wastewater system that he or she designed or installed. [Repealed.]~~

18 (d) The ~~secretary~~ Secretary or the Director of the Office of Professional  
19 Regulation may review, on a random basis, or in response to a complaint, or on  
20 his or her own motion, the testing procedures employed by a licensed designer,

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1 the systems designed by a licensed designer, the designs approved or  
2 recommended for approval by a licensed designer, and any work associated  
3 with the performance of these tasks.

4 (e) ~~After a hearing conducted under chapter 25 of Title 3, the secretary may~~  
5 ~~suspend, revoke, or impose conditions on a designer license, except for one~~  
6 ~~held by a professional engineer. This proceeding may be initiated on the~~  
7 ~~secretary's own motion or upon a written request which contains facts or~~  
8 ~~reasons supporting the request for imposing conditions, for suspension, or for~~  
9 ~~revocation. Cause for imposing conditions, suspension, or revocation shall be~~  
10 ~~conduct specified under 3 V.S.A. § 129a as constituting unprofessional~~  
11 ~~conduct by a licensee. [Repealed.]~~

12 (f) If a person who signs a design or installation certification submitted  
13 under this chapter certifies a design, installation, or related design or  
14 installation information and, as a result of the person's failure to exercise  
15 reasonable professional judgment, submits design or installation information  
16 that is untrue or incorrect, or submits a design or installs a wastewater system  
17 or potable water supply that does not comply with the rules adopted under this  
18 chapter, the person who signed the certification may be ~~subject to penalties~~  
19 disciplined by the Director of the Office of Professional Regulation and be

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1 required to take all actions to remediate the affected project in accordance with  
2 the provisions of chapters 201 and 211 of this title.

3 \* \* \*

4 Sec. 10. 3 V.S.A. § 122 is amended to read:

5 § 122. OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

6 An Office of Professional Regulation is created within the Office of the  
7 Secretary of State. The Office shall have a Director who shall be appointed by  
8 the Secretary of State and shall be an exempt employee. The following boards  
9 or professions are attached to the Office of Professional Regulation:

10 \* \* \*

11 ~~(45)~~(46) Potable water supply and wastewater system designers

12 ~~(46)~~(47) Pollution abatement facility operators

13 Sec. 11. 26 V.S.A. chapter 97 is added to read:

14 CHAPTER 97. POTABLE WATER SUPPLY AND WASTEWATER

15 SYSTEM DESIGNERS

16 Subchapter 1. General Provisions

17 § 5001. PURPOSE AND EFFECT

18 In order to safeguard the life and health of the people of this State, a person,  
19 other than a professional engineer exempted under this chapter, shall not  
20 design a potable water supply or wastewater system that requires a

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1 permit or designer’s certification or license under the laws of this State unless  
2 currently licensed under this chapter.

3 § 5002. DEFINITIONS

4 As used in this chapter:

5 (1) “Director” means the Director of the Office of Professional  
6 Regulation.

7 (2) “License” means a current authorization granted by the Director  
8 permitting the practice of potable water supply or wastewater system design.

9 (3) “Potable water supply or wastewater system designer” or “designer”  
10 means a person who is licensed under this chapter to engage in the practice of  
11 potable water supply or wastewater system design.

12 (4) “Practice of potable water supply or wastewater system design” or  
13 “design” means planning the physical and operational characteristics of a  
14 potable water supply or wastewater system that requires a permit or designer’s  
15 certification or license under the laws of this State:

16 § 5003. PROHIBITIONS; OFFENSES

17 (a) It shall be a violation of this chapter for any person, including any  
18 corporation, association, or individual, to:

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1           (1) sell or fraudulently obtain or furnish any design degree, diploma,  
2           certificate of registration, license, or any other related document or record or to  
3           aid or abet therein;

4           (2) practice design under cover of any degree, diploma, registration,  
5           license, or related document or record illegally or fraudulently obtained or  
6           signed or issued unlawfully or under fraudulent representation;

7           (3) practice design unless duly registered and currently licensed or  
8           otherwise authorized to do so under the provisions of this chapter;

9           (4) represent himself or herself as being licensed or otherwise  
10           authorized by this State to practice design or use in connection with a name  
11           any words, letters, signs, or figures that imply that a person is a licensed  
12           designer when not licensed or otherwise authorized under this chapter;

13           (5) practice design during the time a license or authorization issued  
14           under this chapter is suspended or revoked;

15           (6) employ an unlicensed or unauthorized person to practice as a  
16           licensed designer; or

17           (7) practice or employ a licensed designer to practice beyond the scope  
18           of his or her practice prescribed by rule.

19           (b) Any person violating this section shall be subject to the penalties  
20           provided in 3 V.S.A. § 127.



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• **COMBINES H.562 & S.217**

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1        § 5004. EXCEPTIONS

2            This chapter does not prohibit:

3                    (1) the furnishing of assistance in the case of an emergency or disaster;

4                    (2) the practice of design by a person employed by the U.S. government

5                    or any bureau, division, or agency thereof while in the discharge of his or her

6                    official federal duties; or

7                    (3) the practice of any other occupation or profession by a person duly

8                    licensed or otherwise authorized under the laws of this State.

9        § 5005. QUALIFIED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS EXEMPT

10            A licensed professional engineer may practice design without a license

11            under this chapter if he or she satisfies the criteria set forth in 10 V.S.A.

12            § 1975(b).

13                            Subchapter 2. Administration

14        § 5011. DUTIES OF THE DIRECTOR

15            (a) The Director shall:

16                    (1) provide general information to applicants for licensure as designers;

17                    (2) receive applications for licensure, administer or approve

18                    examinations, and provide licenses to applicants qualified under this chapter;

19                    (3) administer fees as established by law;

20                    (4) refer all disciplinary matters to an administrative law officer;

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1           (5) renew, revoke, and reinstate licenses as ordered by an administrative  
2 law officer; and

3           (6) explain appeal procedures to licensed designers and to applicants,  
4 and complaint procedures to the public.

5           (b) The Director shall adopt rules necessary to perform his or her duties  
6 under this section after due consultation with the Secretary of Natural  
7 Resources ~~and Commissioner of Environmental Conservation.~~ These rules  
8 may establish grades, types, classes, or subcategories of licenses corresponding  
9 to prescribed scopes of practice.

10 § 5012. ADVISOR APPOINTEES

11           (a)(1) The Secretary of State shall appoint three persons to be advisors to  
12 the Secretary, two of which shall be designers licensed under this chapter and  
13 one of which shall be a representative of the Agency of Natural Resources.  
14 Advisors shall be appointed for five-year staggered terms to serve at the  
15 Secretary's pleasure as advisors in matters relating to design. Two of the  
16 initial appointments may be for a term of fewer than five years.

17           (2) A designer appointee shall have not fewer than five years'  
18 experience as a licensed designer immediately preceding appointment; shall be  
19 licensed as a designer in Vermont; and shall be actively engaged in the practice  
20 of design in this State during incumbency.

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1           (3) The Agency of Natural Resources appointee shall be involved in the  
2 permitting program established under 10 V.S.A. chapter 64.

3           (b) The Director shall seek the advice of the advisor appointees in carrying  
4 out the provisions of this chapter.

5                                   Subchapter 3. Licenses

6           § 5021. ELIGIBILITY FOR LICENSURE

7           (a) To be eligible for licensure as a designer, an applicant shall be at least  
8 18 years of age; able to read and write the English language; hold a high school  
9 diploma, General Equivalency Diploma (GED), or equivalent; and demonstrate  
10 such specific education, training, experience, and examination performance as  
11 the Director may by rule require to hold the class of license sought.

12           (b) The Director may waive examination for an applicant licensed or  
13 certified in good standing by a foreign jurisdiction found by the Director to  
14 enforce equivalent standards to obtain the class of license sought in this State.  
15 The applicant's previous job description and experience in the design field may  
16 be considered.

17           § 5022. LICENSE RENEWAL

18           (a)(1) A license shall be renewed every two years upon application,  
19 payment of the required fee, and proof of compliance with such continuing  
20 education or periodic reexamination requirements as the Director may by rule

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1 prescribe. Failure to comply with the provisions of this section shall result in  
2 suspension of all privileges granted to the licensee, beginning on the expiration  
3 date of the license.

4 (2) A license that has lapsed shall be renewed upon payment of the  
5 biennial renewal fee and the late renewal penalty.

6 (b) The Director may adopt rules necessary for the protection of the public  
7 to assure the Director that an applicant whose license has lapsed or who has  
8 not worked for more than three years as a licensed designer is professionally  
9 qualified for license renewal. Conditions imposed under this subsection shall  
10 be in addition to the requirements of subsection (a) of this section.

11 § 5023. APPLICATIONS

12 Applications for licensure and license renewal shall be on forms provided  
13 by the Director. Each application shall contain a statement under oath showing  
14 the applicant's education, experience, and other pertinent information and shall  
15 be accompanied by the required fee.

16 § 5024. LICENSURE GENERALLY

17 The Director shall issue a license or renew a license, upon payment of the  
18 fees required under this chapter, to an applicant or licensee who has  
19 satisfactorily met all the requirements of this chapter.

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1     § 5025. FEES

2             Applicants and persons regulated under this chapter shall pay those fees set  
3     forth in 3 V.S.A. § 125(b).

4     § 5026. UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

5             (a) Unprofessional conduct means the following conduct and the conduct  
6     set forth in 3 V.S.A. § 129a committed by a licensee, an applicant, or a person  
7     who later becomes an applicant:

8             (1) has made or caused to be made a false, fraudulent, or forged  
9     statement or representation in procuring or attempting to procure registration  
10    or renew a license to practice as a licensed designer;

11            (2) whether or not committed in this State, has been convicted of a  
12    crime related to water system design or installation or a felony which evinces  
13    an unfitness to practice design;

14            (3) is unable to practice design competently by reason of any cause;

15            (4) has willfully or repeatedly violated or caused the violation of any of  
16    the provisions of this chapter, the terms of a permit, the Vermont On-Site  
17    Wastewater and Potable Water Supply Regulations, or the Vermont Water  
18    Quality Standards;

19            (5) is habitually intemperate or is addicted to the use of habit-forming  
20    drugs;

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1           (6) has a mental, emotional, or physical disability, the nature of which  
2           interferes with the ability to practice design competently;

3           (7) engages in conduct of a character likely to deceive, defraud, or harm  
4           the public;

5           (8) has reviewed or acted on permit applications for a potable water  
6           supply or wastewater system that he or she designed or installed.

7           (b) A person shall not be liable in a civil action for damages resulting from  
8           the good faith reporting of information to the Director or the Office of  
9           Professional Regulation about alleged incompetent, unprofessional, or  
10           unlawful conduct of a licensed designer.

11           Sec. 12. TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

12           (a) The five years' experience required by 26 V.S.A. § 5012(a)(2) (advisor  
13           appointees; qualifications of appointees) set forth in Sec. 11 of this act may  
14           include experience while licensed pursuant to subchapter 7 of the Agency of  
15           Natural Resources Wastewater System and Potable Water Supply Rules, and  
16           an initial advisor appointee may be in the process of applying for licensure  
17           from the Office of Professional Regulation if he or she otherwise meets the  
18           requirements for licensure as an licensed designer and the other requirements  
19           of 26 V.S.A. § 5012(a)(2).

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1        (b) Pending adoption by the Director of administrative rules governing  
2        licensed designers, the Director may license designers consistent with  
3        subchapter 7 of the Agency of Natural Resources Wastewater System and  
4        Potable Water Supply Rules.

5        (c) A person holding a design license from the Agency of Natural  
6        Resources may obtain an equivalent license from the Office of Professional  
7        Regulation at no charge, valid through the expiration date assigned by the  
8        Agency, and thereafter renewable on a biennial schedule established by the  
9        Office.

10       Sec. 13. 26 V.S.A. chapter 99 is added to read:

11        CHAPTER 99. POLLUTION ABATEMENT FACILITY OPERATORS

12                    Subchapter 1. General Provisions

13        § 5101. PURPOSE AND EFFECT

14        In order to safeguard the life and health of the people of this State, a person  
15        shall not practice or offer to practice pollution abatement facility operation  
16        unless currently licensed under this chapter.

17        § 5102. DEFINITIONS

18        As used in this chapter:

19            (1) “Director” means the Director of the Office of Professional  
20        Regulation.

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1           (2) “License” means a current authorization granted by the Director  
2 permitting the practice of pollution abatement facility operation.

3           (3) “Permit,” when used as a noun, means an authorization by the  
4 Agency of Natural Resources to operate a facility regulated under 10 V.S.A.  
5 § 1263.

6           (4) “Practice of pollution abatement facility operation” means the  
7 operation and maintenance of a facility regulated under 10 V.S.A. § 1263 by a  
8 person required by the terms of a permit to hold particular credentials,  
9 including those of an “operator,” “assistant chief operator,” or “chief operator.”

10           (5) “Pollution abatement facility operator” means a person who is  
11 licensed under this chapter, or pursuant to rules developed pursuant to this  
12 chapter, to engage in the practice of pollution abatement facility operation  
13 consistent with a permit.

14 § 5103. PROHIBITIONS; OFFENSES

15           (a) It shall be a violation of this chapter for any person, including any  
16 corporation, association, or individual, to:

17           (1) sell or fraudulently obtain or furnish any pollution abatement facility  
18 operation degree, diploma, certificate of registration, license, or any other  
19 related document or record or to aid or abet therein;



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1           (2) practice or knowingly permit the practice of pollution abatement  
2 facility operation under cover of any degree, diploma, registration, license, or  
3 related document or record illegally or fraudulently obtained or signed or  
4 issued unlawfully or under fraudulent representation;

5           (3) practice or permit the practice of pollution abatement facility  
6 operation other than by a person duly registered and currently licensed or  
7 otherwise authorized to do so under the provisions of this chapter;

8           (4) represent himself or herself as being licensed or otherwise  
9 authorized by this State to practice pollution abatement facility operation or  
10 use in connection with a name any words, letters, signs, or figures that imply  
11 that a person is a pollution abatement facility operator when not licensed or  
12 otherwise authorized under this chapter;

13           (5) practice pollution abatement facility operation during the time a  
14 license or authorization issued under this chapter is suspended or revoked; or

15           (6) employ an unlicensed or unauthorized person to practice as a  
16 pollution abatement facility operator.

17           (b) Any person violating this section shall be subject to the penalties  
18 provided in 3 V.S.A. § 127(c).

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1        § 5104. EXCEPTIONS

2            This chapter does not prohibit:

3                    (1) the furnishing of assistance in the case of an emergency or  
4            disaster; or

5                    (2) a person not licensed under this chapter from working under the  
6            direct or indirect supervision of a pollution abatement facility operator, where  
7            such employment is consistent with the terms, conditions, and intent of a  
8            facility's permit.

9                                    Subchapter 2. Administration

10        § 5111. DUTIES OF THE DIRECTOR

11            (a) The Director shall:

12                    (1) provide general information to applicants for licensure as pollution  
13            abatement facility operators;

14                    (2) receive applications for licensure, administer or approve  
15            examinations and training programs, and provide licenses to applicants  
16            qualified under this chapter;

17                    (3) administer fees as established by law;

18                    (4) refer all disciplinary matters to an administrative law officer;

19                    (5) renew, revoke, and reinstate licenses as ordered by an administrative  
20            law officer; and

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1           (6) explain appeal procedures to licensed pollution abatement facility  
2 operators and to applicants, and complaint procedures to the public.

3           (b) The Director shall adopt rules necessary to perform his or her duties  
4 under this section after due consultation with the Secretary of Natural  
5 Resources. These rules may establish grades, types, classes, or subcategories  
6 of licenses corresponding to facilities of distinct types and complexity.

7           § 5112. ADVISOR APPOINTEES

8           (a)(1) The Secretary of State shall appoint three persons to be advisors to  
9 the Secretary, two of which shall be pollution abatement facility operators and  
10 one of which shall be a representative of the Agency of Natural Resources.  
11 Advisors shall be appointed for five-year staggered terms to serve at the  
12 Secretary's pleasure as advisors in matters relating to operation. Two of the  
13 initial appointments may be for a term of fewer than five years.

14           (2) A pollution abatement facility operator appointee shall have not  
15 fewer than five years' experience as a pollution abatement facility operator  
16 immediately preceding appointment, shall be licensed as a pollution abatement  
17 facility operator in Vermont, and shall be actively engaged in the practice of  
18 pollution abatement facility operation in this State during incumbency.

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1           (3) An appointee representing the Agency of Natural Resources shall be  
2 involved in the administration of the permitting program established under  
3 10 V.S.A. § 1263.

4           (b) The Director shall seek the advice of the advisor appointees in carrying  
5 out the provisions of this chapter.

#### Subchapter 3. Licenses

#### § 5121. ELIGIBILITY FOR LICENSURE

8           (a) To be eligible for licensure as a pollution abatement facility operator, an  
9 applicant shall be at least 18 years of age; be able to read and write the English  
10 language; hold a high school diploma, General Equivalency Diploma (GED),  
11 or equivalent; and demonstrate such specific education, training, experience,  
12 and examination performance as the Director may by rule require to hold the  
13 class of license sought.

14           (b) The Director may waive examination for an applicant licensed or  
15 certified in good standing by a foreign jurisdiction found by the Director to  
16 enforce equivalent standards to obtain the class of license sought in this State.  
17 The applicant's previous job description and experience in the pollution  
18 abatement field may be considered.

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1        § 5122. LICENSE RENEWAL

2            (a)(1) A license shall be renewed every two years upon application,  
3            payment of the required fee, and proof of compliance with such continuing  
4            education or periodic reexamination requirements as the Director may by rule  
5            prescribe. Failure to comply with the provisions of this section shall result in  
6            suspension of all privileges granted to the licensee, beginning on the expiration  
7            date of the license.

8            (2) A license that has lapsed shall be renewed upon payment of the  
9            biennial renewal fee and the late renewal penalty.

10          (b) The Director may adopt rules necessary for the protection of the public  
11          to assure the Director that an applicant whose license has lapsed or who has  
12          not worked for more than three years as a pollution abatement facility operator  
13          is professionally qualified for license renewal. Conditions imposed under this  
14          subsection shall be in addition to the requirements of subsection (a) of this  
15          section.

16        § 5123. APPLICATIONS

17            Applications for licensure and license renewal shall be on forms provided  
18            by the Director. Each application shall contain a statement under oath showing  
19            the applicant's education, experience, and other pertinent information and shall  
20            be accompanied by the required fee.

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1     § 5124. LICENSURE GENERALLY

2             The Director shall issue a license or renew a license upon payment of the  
3     fees required under this chapter to an applicant or licensee who has  
4     satisfactorily met all the requirements of this chapter.

5     § 5125. FEES

6             Applicants and persons regulated under this chapter shall pay those fees set  
7     forth in 3 V.S.A. § 125(b).

8     § 5126. UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

9             (a) Unprofessional conduct means the following conduct and the conduct  
10     set forth in 3 V.S.A. § 129a committed by a licensee, an applicant, or a person  
11     who later becomes an applicant:

12             (1) has made or caused to be made a false, fraudulent, or forged  
13     statement or representation in procuring or attempting to procure registration  
14     or renew a license to practice as a water treatment facility operator;

15             (2) whether or not committed in this State, has been convicted of a  
16     crime related to pollution abatement or environmental compliance or a felony  
17     which evinces an unfitness to practice water treatment facility operation;

18             (3) is unable to practice pollution abatement facility operation  
19     competently by reason of any cause;

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1           (4) has willfully or repeatedly violated or caused the violation of any of  
2           the provisions of this chapter, the terms of a permit, the Vermont Water  
3           Pollution Control Permit Regulations, or the Vermont Water Quality  
4           Standards;

5           (5) is habitually intemperate or is addicted to the use of habit-forming  
6           drugs;

7           (6) has a mental, emotional, or physical disability, the nature of which  
8           interferes with the ability to practice pollution abatement facility operation  
9           competently;

10           (7) engages in conduct of a character likely to deceive, defraud, or harm  
11           the public;

12           (8) fails to display prominently his or her pollution abatement facility  
13           operator license in the office of a facility at which he or she performs licensed  
14           activities; or

15           (9) unreasonably fails to ensure proper operations of the facility.

16           (b) A person shall not be liable in a civil action for damages resulting from  
17           the good faith reporting of information to the Director or the Office of  
18           Professional Regulation about alleged incompetent, unprofessional, or  
19           unlawful conduct of a pollution abatement facility operator or facility,  
20           corporation, or municipal corporation employing such person.

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1 Sec. 14. TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

2 (a) Notwithstanding the provision of 26 V.S.A. § 5112(a)(2) (advisor  
3 appointees; qualifications of appointees) that requires an appointee to be  
4 licensed as a pollution abatement facility operator in Vermont, an initial  
5 advisor appointee may be in the process of applying for licensure if he or she  
6 otherwise meets the requirements for licensure as a wastewater treatment  
7 facility operator and the other requirements of 26 V.S.A. § 5112(a)(2).

8 (b) Pending adoption by the Director of administrative rules governing  
9 pollution abatement facility operators, the Director may license individuals to  
10 operate pollution abatement facilities consistent with the Agency of Natural  
11 Resources Wastewater Treatment Facility Operator Certification Rule.

12 (c) A person holding an active certificate from the Agency of Natural  
13 Resources as an operator, assistant chief operator, or chief operator may obtain  
14 an equivalent license from the Office of Professional Regulation at no charge,  
15 valid through the expiration date assigned by the Agency, and thereafter  
16 renewable on a biennial schedule established by the Office.



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1       Sec. 15. CREATION OF NEW POSITION WITHIN THE OFFICE OF  
2                   PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

3           (a) To support the administration of new professional regulation licensees  
4       created in Secs. 11 and 13 of this act, there is created within the Secretary of  
5       State's Office of Professional Regulation one (1) Licensing Board Specialist.

6           (b) Any funding necessary to support the position created under  
7       subsection (a) of this section shall be derived from the Office's Professional  
8       Regulatory Fee Fund, with no General Fund dollars.

9                               \* \* \* Board of Dental Examiners \* \* \*

10       Sec. 16. 26 V.S.A. § 581 is amended to read:

11       § 581. CREATION; QUALIFICATIONS

12                               \* \* \*

13       (c) ~~No~~ A member of the ~~board may~~ Board shall not be an officer or serve  
14       on a committee of his or her respective state or local professional dental, dental  
15       hygiene, or dental assisting organization, ~~nor shall any member of the board be~~  
16       ~~on the faculty of a school of dentistry, dental hygiene, or dental assisting.~~

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1 \* \* \* Social Workers \* \* \*

2 Sec. 17. 26 V.S.A. § 3202 is amended to read:

3 § 3202. PROHIBITION; OFFENSES

4 \* \* \*

5 (c) A State agency or a subdivision or contractor thereof shall not use or  
6 permit the use of the title “social worker” other than in relation to an employee  
7 holding a bachelor’s, master’s, or doctoral degree from an accredited school or  
8 program of social work.

9 \* \* \* Land Surveyors \* \* \*

10 Sec. 18. 27 V.S.A. § 1403 is amended to read:

11 § 1403. COMPOSITION OF SURVEY PLATS

12 (a) Plats filed in accordance with this chapter shall be on sheets 11 inches  
13 by 17 inches or 18 inches by 24 inches in size or 24 inches by 36 inches if the  
14 town or city has appropriate storage facilities as determined by the town or city  
15 clerk.

16 (b) Plats filed in accordance with this chapter shall also conform with the  
17 following ~~further~~ requirements:

18 (1) Each survey plat shall contain an inset locus map clearly indicating  
19 the location of the land depicted and a legend of symbols used.

20 (2) All lettering and data shall be clearly legible.

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1           (3) Plat scale ratios shall be sufficient to allow all pertinent survey data  
2 to be shown, and each plat shall contain a graphic scale graduated in units of  
3 measure used in the body of the plat.

4           (4) Each plat sheet shall have a minimum one-half inch margin, except  
5 the binder side, which shall have a minimum one and one-half inch margin.

6           (5) Each plat sheet shall contain a title area in the lower right-hand  
7 corner of the sheet stating the location of the land, scale expressed in  
8 engineering units, date of compilation, the name of the record owner as of that  
9 date, the land surveyor's certification as outlined in 26 V.S.A. § 2596, and a  
10 certification that the plat conforms with requirements of this section. These  
11 certifications shall be accompanied by the responsible land surveyor's seal,  
12 name and number, and signature.

13           (6) Each survey plat shall contain a graphical indication of the reference  
14 meridian used on the survey plat and a statement describing the basis of  
15 bearings referenced on the survey plat.

16           (7) When the plat sheet is produced by a reproduction process, the  
17 process shall be identified and certified to by the producer in the margin of the  
18 plat sheet. Original plat sheets shall be so identified and certified to by the  
19 same process.

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1           (8) The recordable plat materials shall be composed in one of the  
2 following processes:

3           (A) fixed-line photographic process on stable base polyester film; or

4           (B) pigment ink on stable base polyester film or linen tracing cloth.

5           (c) Survey plats prepared and dated before July 1, 1992, shall be exempt  
6 from the requirements of subdivisions ~~(b)(2)–(7)~~ (b)(1)–(6) and (8) of this  
7 section, but shall comply with requirements in State law in effect when the  
8 plats were prepared and dated.

9           (d) Survey plats prepared and dated before any statutory regulation of land  
10 plats shall comply with ~~subsections~~ subsection (a) and subdivisions (b)(1) and  
11 ~~(b)(8)~~ subdivision (b)(7) of this section.

12           (e) Any survey plat exempted by subsection (c) or (d) of this section and  
13 revised after July 1, 1992, shall meet all the requirements of ~~sections~~  
14 ~~1401–1406~~ of this ~~title~~ chapter.

15           Sec. 19. 27 V.S.A. § 1404 is amended to read:

16           § 1404. ~~EXCEPTIONS~~ EXEMPTIONS

17           (a) Survey plats prepared and filed by municipal and State government  
18 agencies shall be exempt from subdivision 1403(b)(5) of this ~~title~~ chapter.

19           Each plat sheet filed under this exemption shall contain a title area in the lower  
20 right-hand corner of the sheet stating the location of the land, the scale

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1 expressed in engineering units, and the date of compilation. Highway plats or  
2 plans filed under this exemption shall also include right-of-way detail sheets  
3 and a title sheet.

4 (b) Survey plats prepared and filed in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 4463  
5 shall be exempt from subdivision 1403(b)(5) of this ~~title~~ chapter. Survey plats  
6 or plans filed under this exemption shall contain a title area, the location of the  
7 land, and scale expressed in engineering units. In addition, they shall include  
8 inscriptions and data required by zoning and planning boards.

9 (c) Survey plats prepared and filed in accordance with chapter 15 of this  
10 title shall be exempt from subdivision ~~1403(b)(6)~~ 1403(b)(5) of this ~~title~~  
11 chapter. Each plat sheet filed under this exemption shall contain a title area  
12 stating the location of the land, the scale expressed in engineering or  
13 architectural units, and the date of compilation.

14 ***Start of S.217***

15 \* \* \* Professional Regulation Report \* \* \*

16 Sec. 20. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE

17 (a) Findings.

18 (1) The General Assembly finds that multiple State agencies regulate a  
19 variety of professions and occupations. This includes the Office of  
20 Professional Regulation, which is focused primarily on licensing

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1 administration and enforcement and which regulates approximately 60,000  
2 licensees across 46 professions. It also includes other State agencies that have  
3 other functions as their primary focus, with professional regulation as an  
4 ancillary aspect of their duties.

5 (2) The General Assembly further finds that the State should review the  
6 organization of professional regulation in the State to determine whether the  
7 regulation of certain professions and occupations should be transferred to the  
8 Office of Professional Regulation in order to allow State government to  
9 operate in a more effective and efficient manner.

10 (3) The General Assembly further finds that the State should review the  
11 makeup and supervision of professional regulatory entities in the State to  
12 determine whether they comply with antitrust law in light of recent U.S.  
13 Supreme Court precedent.

14 (b) Purpose. The purpose of Sec. 2 of this act is to provide the General  
15 Assembly and the Office of Professional Regulation with comprehensive  
16 information regarding the organizational structures of and the resources that  
17 are necessary for other State agencies in regulating the professions and  
18 occupations under their jurisdiction. This information will help the General  
19 Assembly determine whether the regulation of certain professions and  
20 occupations should be transferred to the Office. The purpose is also to provide

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1 the General Assembly and the Office of the Attorney General with information  
2 regarding the makeup and supervision of the professional regulatory entities in  
3 the State to ensure compliance with antitrust law.

4 Sec. 21. PROFESSIONAL REGULATION REPORT

5 On or before ~~October 15, 2016~~ December 15, 2016, each of the agencies  
6 and departments set forth in subdivision (1) of this section shall provide a  
7 written report to the Senate and House Committees on Government  
8 Operations, and provide a copy of that report to the Office of Professional  
9 Regulation. The report shall contain the information set forth in subdivision  
10 (2) of this section for each of the professions or occupations listed in  
11 subdivision (1) that are regulated by that agency or department or by a  
12 professional regulatory entity under the jurisdiction of the agency or  
13 department. On or before July 1, 2016, the Secretary of Administration shall  
14 prepare a form that the agencies and departments shall use to file this report,  
15 and the Secretary shall assist the agencies and departments as necessary in  
16 completing the report.

17 (1) Agencies and departments required to report; listed professions and  
18 occupations.

19 (A) Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets:

20 (i) dairy technicians;

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1                   (ii) pesticide applicators;

2                   (iii) weighmasters; and

3                   (iv) weights and measures repairers.

4                   (B) Agency of Education: educators.

5                   (C) Agency of Human Services:

6                   (i) child care center workers; and

7                   (ii) child care home providers.

8                   (D) Agency of Natural Resources:

9                   ~~(i) wastewater and water supply designers;~~

10                  ~~(ii) wastewater treatment facility operators;~~

11                  ~~(iii)~~(i) water system operators; and

12                  ~~(iv)~~(ii) well drillers.

13                  ~~(E) Department of Financial Regulation:~~

14                  ~~(i) lenders;~~

15                  ~~(ii) mortgage brokers;~~

16                  ~~(iii) mortgage loan originators;~~

17                  ~~(iv) loan servicers;~~

18                  ~~(v) sales and finance companies;~~

19                  ~~(vi) debt adjusters;~~

20                  ~~(vii) money transmitters;~~



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1 ~~(viii) check cashiers and currency exchangers;~~

2 ~~(ix) insurance adjusters;~~

3 ~~(x) insurance agents; and~~

4 ~~(xi) financial planners.~~

5 ~~(F)~~**(E)** Department of Health:

6 (i) physicians;

7 (ii) physician assistants;

8 (iii) anesthesiologist assistants;

9 (iv) podiatrists;

10 (v) radiologist assistants;

11 ~~(vi) alcohol and drug abuse counselors;~~

12 ~~(vii)~~**(vi)** emergency medical personnel;

13 ~~(viii)~~**(vii)** asbestos abatement; and

14 ~~(ix)~~**(viii)** lead abatement.

15 ~~(G)~~**(F)** Department of Liquor Control:

16 (i) sellers;

17 (ii) manufacturers; and

18 (iii) distributors.

19 ~~(H)~~**(G)** Department of Public Safety:

20 (i) electricians;

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- 1                    (ii) plumbers;
- 2                    (iii) elevator inspectors;
- 3                    (iv) elevator mechanics;
- 4                    (v) lift mechanics;
- 5                    (vi) commissioned boiler inspectors;
- 6                    (vii) chemical suppression;
- 7                    (viii) chimney sweeps;
- 8                    (ix) fire alarm inspectors;
- 9                    (x) fire sprinkler system designers;
- 10                   (xi) fire sprinkler system installers;
- 11                   (xii) oil burner installers;
- 12                   (xiii) propane gas installers;
- 13                   (xiv) natural gas installers;
- 14                   (xv) precious metal dealers;
- 15                   (xvi) emergency generator installers;
- 16                   (xvii) polygraph examiners; and
- 17                   (xviii) explosive blasters.
- 18                   (2) Information required to be reported.
- 19                   (A) Agency or department name.
- 20                   (B) Regulation type (license, certification, or registration).

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1           (C) Number of persons regulated.

2           (D) Legal basis for regulation, including:

3                 (i) statutory authority;

4                 (ii) administrative rules; and

5                 (iii) agency or department policies.

6           (E) Purpose of regulation.

7           (F) A description of stakeholders in the regulation, including:

8                 (i) those subject to regulation;

9                 (ii) State entities;

10                (iii) consumers or clients;

11                (iv) employers;

12                (v) the public; and

13                (vi) any other applicable persons.

14           (G) A description of the governance structure, such as:

15                (i) a board or commission;

16                (ii) an agency or division head;

17                (iii) a panel; or

18                (iv) a hearing officer.

19           (H) A description of the decision makers:

20                (i) who set application requirements and practice standards;

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1                   (ii) who make decisions on applicants, enforcement, and

2 discipline; and

3                   (iii) specifying whether any decision maker is an active participant

4 in the profession being regulated or, if the decision maker has taken a hiatus

5 from the profession, whether the decision maker plans to return to the

6 profession.

7                   (I) Qualifications for regulation, including:

8                   (i) examination;

9                   (ii) education; and

10                  (iii) experience.

11                  (J) A description of the application process, including:

12                  (i) receiving applications;

13                  (ii) reviewing applications;

14                  (iii) rejecting applications;

15                  (iv) appealing application rejections; ~~and~~

16                  (v) issuing licenses, certifications, or registrations; **and**

17                  (vi) the average time to process licenses.

18                  (K) The duration of the license, certification, or registration.

19                  (L) A description of the renewal process and requirements.

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1            (M) Citation of the standards of practice or codes of conduct for

2 persons regulated set forth in:

3            (i) statute;

4            (ii) rule;

5            (iii) policy; or

6            (iv) another location.

7            (N) A description of the enforcement process, including:

8            (i) complaints;

9            (ii) investigations;

10           (iii) prosecutions;

11           (iv) hearings;

12           (v) discipline; ~~and~~

13           (vi) follow-up or monitoring; **and**

14           **(vii) the average time to process complaints and cases.**

15           (O) A description of any inspection process.

16           (P) A description of any systems, such as information technology

17 systems, that are used to enable licensing, certification, or registration,

18 renewal, enforcement, and inspection.

19           (Q) Staff members:

20           (i) number of full-time staff;

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1                    (ii) number of part-time staff;

2                    (iii) job titles; and

3                    (iv) duties.

4                    (R) Budget:

5                    (i) annual expenses;

6                    (ii) annual revenues;

7                    (iii) fees:

8                    (I) the amount charged;

9                    (II) how fee amounts are determined and set;

10                   (III) the authority to establish those fees; and

11                   (IV) how revenues from fees are used, indicating the specific  
12 uses if those revenues are used for purposes other than licensing.

13                   (iv) General Fund or special fund deposits; and

14                   (v) appropriations from the General Fund.

15                   (S) A description and the qualifications of any supervisor responsible  
16 for the oversight of the agency's or department's professional regulatory entity  
17 and whether that supervisor has the ability to veto or modify any decision by  
18 that professional regulatory entity.

19                   (T) Any other information the agency or department believes is  
20 relevant for the purpose of this report.



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1 (1) Adopt rules pursuant to 3 V.S.A. chapter 25 with respect to the  
2 licensing of teachers and administrators, ~~and of speech language pathologists~~  
3 ~~and audiologists as provided in 26 V.S.A. chapter 87.~~

4 \* \* \*

5 Sec. 24. 16 V.S.A. § 1694a is added to read:

6 § 1694a. ENDORSEMENT OF PROFESSIONALS LICENSED UNDER

7 TITLE 26

8 (a)(1) If the Standards Board finds that a class of professionals licensed  
9 under Title 26 performs services within schools that constitute direct  
10 instructional or other educational services, the Standards Board shall develop  
11 an appropriate endorsement in joint consultation with the Director of the Office  
12 of Professional Regulation.

13 (2) Such an endorsement shall be adopted pursuant to the provisions of  
14 the Vermont Administrative Procedure Act.

15 (b) An endorsement issued to an individual licensed under Title 26 shall be  
16 administered by the Office of Professional Regulation and indicated by a  
17 special designation on the professional license signifying that the licensee  
18 possesses the additional qualifications, if any, required to obtain the  
19 endorsement.



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1       (c)(1) A licensee shall not be required to pay any fee to obtain an endorsed  
2       license under this section, except the ordinary fee required to obtain and renew  
3       the underlying professional license.

4               (2) Such a licensee shall not be required to file duplicative  
5       documentation with different subdivisions of State government.

6       (d)(1) The Office of Professional Regulation and the Agency of Education  
7       each shall notify the other immediately upon a change in licensure or  
8       endorsement status pertaining to a Title 26 licensee holding an endorsement  
9       under this chapter or upon receipt of a disciplinary complaint against such  
10      licensee.

11              (2) The Agency, the Standards Board, and the Office and its subsidiary  
12      boards shall maintain their investigative and disciplinary jurisdiction over such  
13      a licensee.

14              (3) The Office and the Agency shall cooperate in workforce-data or  
15      discipline reporting.

16      Sec. 25. TRANSITIONAL PROVISION; TITLE 26 LICENSEE

17              ENDORSEMENTS

18              An individual licensed pursuant to Title 26 who, on the effective date of this  
19      section, holds a corresponding endorsement from the Standards Board for  
20      Professional Educators shall be entitled to receive from the Office of

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1 Professional Regulation a new endorsed Title 26 license valid through the  
2 existing expiration of his or her Title 26 license. The Office shall issue these  
3 endorsed licenses on or before January 1, 2017.

4 \* \* \* Effective Dates \* \* \*

5 Sec. 26. EFFECTIVE DATES

6 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2016, except:

7 (1) this section and Secs. 20 (findings and purpose) and 21 (professional  
8 regulation report) shall take effect on passage;

9 (2) Secs. 2-5 (regarding alcohol and drug abuse counselors) shall take  
10 effect on September 1, 2016;

11 (3) Secs. 8-14 (regarding potable water supply and wastewater system  
12 designers and pollution abatement facility operators) shall take effect on  
13 January 1, 2017; and

14 (4) Sec. 17, 26 V.S.A. § 3202 (social workers; prohibition) shall take  
15 effect on July 1, 2017.

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

18 \_\_\_\_\_

19 Senator \_\_\_\_\_

20 FOR THE COMMITTEE