



To: Senate Government Operations Committee  
From: Community Justice Network of Vermont (CJNVT)  
Date: February 8, 2016  
Re: S.221 – Amendments to Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council

CJNVT is supportive of S 221. Our organizations have provided community-based justice services in Vermont for more than 20 years throughout VT. Services are provided based on pre-charge referrals from law enforcement and pretrial services, and involve community members, towns and cities, and other state agencies, We work to broaden and strengthen restorative justice and practices through leadership, advocacy, and education.

CJNVT proposes the following amendment to S.221:

- Sec. 1. 20 V.S.A. § 2351 Creation and Purpose of Council

(c) The Council shall offer continuing programs of instruction in up-to-date methods of law enforcement and the administration of criminal justice, including alternative and restorative justice consistent with 28 V.S.A. §2a

- Sec. 3. 20 V.S.A. § 2352 ~~Creation of Council~~ Membership

(1) The Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council shall consist of

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(E) five additional members appointed by the Governor so as to 2 provide broad representation of all aspects of law enforcement, community justice programs, and the public in Vermont on the Council.

(2) The Governor shall solicit recommendations for appointment from the Vermont State’s Attorneys Association, the Vermont State’s Sheriffs Association, the Vermont Police Chiefs Association, ~~and~~ the Vermont Constables Association, and the Community Justice Network of Vermont.

- Section 5 Sec. 5. 20 V.S.A. § 2355 Council Powers and Duties

(a) The Council shall adopt rules with respect to:

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(5) minimum basic training for law enforcement officers in each level of law enforcement officer certification, including an overview of community and restorative justice programs consistent with 28 V.S.A. §2a, developed in partnership with the Community Justice Network of Vermont, and the time within which that training shall be completed;

- Sec. 14. 20 V.S.A. § 1818 Law Enforcement Advisory Board

(a) ... The Board shall comprise the following members:

**(XX) a member of the Community Justice Network of Vermont**

Thank you for your consideration of our requests.