

## STATE OF VERMONT OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

## **MEMORANDUM**

To: Speaker of the House; President *Pro Tempore* of the Senate; House

Committees on Education, on Appropriations, on Corrections and Institutions, and on Ways and Means; and Senate Committees on Education, on Appropriations, on Finance, and on Institutions

CC: House and Senate Committees on Government Operations

From: BetsyAnn Wrask, Legislative Counsel

Date: January 15, 2015

Subject: Reports not listed in 2014 Acts and Resolves No. 142

Section 113 of last year's reports act (Act No. 142) <sup>1</sup> required the Office of Legislative Council to provide to the General Assembly a list of all statutory sections not listed in the act that contain a report subject to the repeal provisions of 2 V.S.A. § 20(d) (limit on agency reports). <sup>2</sup> Section 113 further provides that on July 1, 2016, Legislative

Council is required to delete the report requirements contained in that list.

Pursuant to that requirement, it appears the following three statutes contain report requirements that were not listed in Act No. 142 but which are subject to 2 V.S.A. § 20(d):

- 1. 9 V.S.A. § 4553 (Human Rights Commission; powers)<sup>3</sup>
  - Subsection (b) requires the Human Rights Commission to forward to the Speaker and the President *Pro Tempore* an annual report that includes the status of Commission program operations and recommendations for improved human rights advocacy and activities.
- 2. 16 App. V.S.A. ch. 1, § 18 (UVM; legislative reports)<sup>4</sup>
  - This section requires UVM to report annually to the General Assembly on its condition.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Section 113 is on page 68 of Act No. 142:

 $<sup>\</sup>frac{http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2014/Docs/ACTS/ACT142/ACT142\%20As\%20Enacted.p}{df}$ 

http://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/section/02/001/00020

http://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/section/09/141/04553

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> http://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/section/16APPENDIX/001/00008

- 3. 32 V.S.A. § 182 (Duties of Commissioner of Finance and Management)<sup>5</sup>
  - Subdivision (a)(8) requires the Commissioner to provide to the House Committees on Appropriations, on Corrections and Institutions, and on Ways and Means and to the Senate Committees on Appropriations, on Finance, and on Institutions a comprehensive annual financial report in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Regarding any of those three reports that are of interest to you or your committee, there are at least these three options:

- 1. Allow the report to expire on July 1, 2016, as currently provided in Act No. 142;
- 2. Provide in legislation that the report repeal is delayed until July 1, 2018, such as was provided for other reports in Sec. 112 of Act No. 142; or
- 3. Provide in legislation that the report is exempt from 2 V.S.A. § 20(d)'s automatic expiration, such as was provided for other reports in Secs. 1–79 of Act. No. 142.

Options #2 and 3, above, could be part of a reports repeal bill anticipated for the 2016 legislative session. Please respond at your earliest convenience, and do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to discuss any of the above. Thank you.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> http://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/section/32/003/00182