

Senate Calendar

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2018

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ACTION CALENDAR

NEW BUSINESS

Second Reading

Favorable with Recommendation of Amendment

S. 70.

An act relating to the nutritional requirements for children's meals.

Reported favorably with recommendation of amendment by Senator Ayer for the Committee on Health and Welfare.

The Committee recommends that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 18 V.S.A. § 4310 is added to read:

§ 4310. BEVERAGES IN CHILDREN'S MEALS

(a) A food service establishment serving a children's meal shall offer as a default beverage:

(1) water, sparkling water, or flavored water that does not contain added natural or artificial sweeteners;

(2) nonfat or one percent milk or a nondairy milk alternative containing not more than 130 calories per container or serving as offered for sale; or

(3) 100 percent fruit juice or fruit juice combined with water or carbonated water that does not contain added sweeteners, in a serving size of not more than eight ounces.

(b) Nothing in this section shall prohibit a food service establishment from selling or providing, or a customer from purchasing, a beverage other than the default beverage included with a children's meal if the customer requests a substitute beverage.

(c) As used in this section:

(1) "Children's meal" means a combination of food items and a beverage, primarily intended for consumption by children, sold together at a single price.

(2) "Default beverage" means the beverage automatically included as part of a children's meal.

Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2018.

(Committee vote: 5-0-0)

S. 234.

An act relating to juvenile justice.

Reported favorably with recommendation of amendment by Senator Sears for the Committee on Judiciary.

The Committee recommends that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

* * * Findings * * *

Sec. 1. 33 V.S.A. § 5101 is amended to read:

§ 5101. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND PURPOSES

(a) The General Assembly finds and declares as public policy that an effective youth justice system: protects public safety; connects youths and young adults to age-appropriate services that reduce the risk of reoffense; and, when appropriate, shields youths from the adverse impact of a criminal record.

(b) In order to accomplish these goals, the system should be based on the implementation of data-driven evidence-based practices that offer a broad range of alternatives, such that the degree of intervention is commensurate with the risk of reoffense.

(c) High-intensity interventions with low-risk offenders not only decrease program effectiveness, but are contrary to the goal of public safety in that they increase the risk of recidivism. An effective youth justice system includes pre-charge options that keep low-risk offenders out of the criminal justice system altogether.

(d) The juvenile judicial proceedings chapters shall be construed in accordance with the following purposes:

(1) to provide for the care, protection, education, and healthy mental, physical, and social development of children coming within the provisions of the juvenile judicial proceedings chapters;

(2) to remove from children committing delinquent acts the taint of criminality and the consequences of criminal behavior and to provide supervision, care, and rehabilitation ~~which~~ that ensure:

(A) balanced attention to the protection of the community;

(B) accountability to victims and the community for offenses; and

(C) the development of competencies to enable children to become responsible and productive members of the community;

(3) to preserve the family and to separate a child from his or her parents only when necessary to protect the child from serious harm or in the interests of public safety;

(4) to ensure that safety and timely permanency for children are the paramount concerns in the administration and conduct of proceedings under the juvenile judicial proceedings chapters;

(5) to achieve the foregoing purposes, whenever possible, in a family environment, recognizing the importance of positive parent-child relationships to the well-being and development of children; and

(6) to provide judicial proceedings through which the provisions of the juvenile judicial proceedings chapters are executed and enforced and in which the parties are ensured a fair hearing, and that their constitutional and other legal rights are recognized and enforced.

~~(b)~~(e) The provisions of the juvenile judicial proceedings chapters shall be construed as superseding the provisions of the criminal law of this State to the extent the same are inconsistent with this chapter.

* * * Expungement * * *

Sec. 2. 13 V.S.A. § 7609 is added to read:

§ 7609. EXPUNGEMENT OF CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS OF AN INDIVIDUAL 18-21 YEARS OF AGE

(a) Procedure. Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, the record of the criminal proceedings for an individual who was 18-21 years of age at the time the individual committed a qualifying crime shall be expunged within 30 days after the date on which the individual successfully completed the terms and conditions of the sentence for the conviction of the qualifying crime, absent a finding of good cause by the court. The court shall issue an order to expunge all records and files related to the arrest, citation, investigation, charge, adjudication of guilt, criminal proceedings, and probation related to the sentence. A copy of the order shall be sent to each agency, department, or official named in the order. Thereafter, the court, law enforcement officers, agencies, and departments shall reply to any request for information that no record exists with respect to such individual. Notwithstanding this subsection, the record shall not be expunged until restitution has been paid in full.

(b) Exceptions.

(1) A criminal record that includes both qualifying and nonqualifying offenses shall not be eligible for expungement pursuant to this section.

(2) The Vermont Crime Information Center shall retain a special index of sentences for sex offenses that require registration pursuant to chapter 167, subchapter 3 of this title. This index shall only list the name and date of birth of the subject of the expunged files and records, the offense for which the subject was convicted, and the docket number of the proceeding that was the subject of the expungement. The special index shall be confidential and shall be accessed only by the director of the Vermont Crime Information Center and an individual designated for the purpose of providing information to the Department of Corrections in the preparation of a presentence investigation in accordance with 28 V.S.A. §§ 204 and 204a.

* * * Juvenile Delinquency Proceedings * * *

Sec. 3. 33 V.S.A. § 5225 is amended to read:

§ 5225. PRELIMINARY HEARING; RISK ASSESSMENT

(a) Preliminary hearing. A preliminary hearing shall be held at the time and date specified on the citation or as otherwise ordered by the court. If a child is taken into custody prior to the preliminary hearing, the preliminary hearing shall be at the time of the temporary care hearing. Counsel for the child shall be assigned prior to the preliminary hearing.

(b) Risk and needs screening.

(1) Prior to the preliminary hearing, the child shall be afforded an opportunity to undergo a risk and needs screening, which shall be conducted by the Department or by a community provider that has contracted with the Department to provide risk and need screenings for children alleged to have committed delinquent acts.

(2) If the child participates in such a screening, the Department or the community provider shall report the risk level result of the screening, the number and source of the collateral contacts made, and the recommendation for charging or other alternatives to the State's Attorney. The State's Attorney shall consider the results of the risk and needs screening in determining whether to file a charge. In lieu of filing a charge, the State's Attorney may refer a child directly to a youth-appropriate community-based provider that has been approved by the Department, which may include a community justice center or a balanced and restorative justice program. Referral to a community-based provider pursuant to this subsection shall not require the State's Attorney to file a charge. If the community-based provider does not accept the case or if the child fails to complete the program in a manner deemed satisfactory and timely by the provider, the child's case shall return to the State's Attorney for charging consideration.

(3) If a charge is brought in the Family Division, the risk level result

shall be provided to the child's attorney. ~~Except on agreement of the parties, the results shall not be provided to the court until after a merits finding has been made.~~

(c) ~~Counsel for the child shall be assigned prior to the preliminary hearing.~~ Referral to diversion. Based on the results of the risk and needs screening, if a child presents a low to moderate risk to reoffend, the State's Attorney shall refer the child directly to court diversion unless the State's Attorney states on the record why a referral to court diversion would not serve the ends of justice. If the court diversion program does not accept the case or if the child fails to complete the program in a manner deemed satisfactory and timely by the provider, the child's case shall return to the State's Attorney for charging consideration.

(d) Guardian ad litem. At the preliminary hearing, the court shall appoint a guardian ad litem for the child. The guardian ad litem may be the child's parent, guardian, or custodian. On its own motion or motion by the child's attorney, the court may appoint a guardian ad litem other than a parent, guardian, or custodian.

(e) Admission; denial. At the preliminary hearing, a denial shall be entered to the allegations of the petition, unless the juvenile, after adequate consultation with the guardian ad litem and counsel, enters an admission. If the juvenile enters an admission, the disposition case plan required by section 5230 of this title may be waived and the court may proceed directly to disposition, provided that the juvenile, the custodial parent, the State's Attorney, the guardian ad litem, and the Department agree.

(f) Conditions. The court may order the child to abide by conditions of release pending a merits or disposition hearing.

Sec. 4. 33 V.S.A. § 5203 is amended to read:

§ 5203. TRANSFER FROM OTHER COURTS

(a) If it appears to a Criminal Division of the Superior Court that the defendant was under 18 years of age at the time the offense charged was alleged to have been committed and the offense charged is ~~a misdemeanor, that court shall forthwith transfer the case to the Family Division of the Superior Court under the authority of this chapter~~ an offense not specified in subsection 5204(a) of this title, that court shall forthwith transfer the proceeding to the Family Division of the Superior Court under the authority of this chapter, and the minor shall then be considered to be subject to this chapter as a child charged with a delinquent act.

(b) If it appears to a Criminal Division of the Superior Court that the defendant was ~~under 18 years of age at the time a felony offense not specified~~

~~in subsection 5204(a) of this title was alleged to have been committed, that court shall forthwith transfer the proceeding to the Family Division of the Superior Court under the authority of this chapter, and the minor shall thereupon be considered to be subject to this chapter as a child charged with a delinquent act had attained 14 years of age but not 18 years of age at the time an offense specified in subsection 5204(a) of this title was alleged to have been committed, that court may forthwith transfer the proceeding to the Family Division of the Superior Court under the authority of this chapter, and the minor shall then be considered to be subject to this chapter as a child charged with a delinquent act.~~

* * *

* * * Youthful Offender Proceedings * * *

Sec. 5. 33 V.S.A. § 5280 is amended to read:

§ 5280. COMMENCEMENT OF YOUTHFUL OFFENDER PROCEEDINGS IN THE FAMILY DIVISION

(a) A proceeding under this chapter shall be commenced by:

(1) the filing of a youthful offender petition by a State's Attorney; or

(2) transfer to the Family Court of a proceeding from the Criminal Division of the Superior Court as provided in section 5281 of this title.

(b) A State's Attorney may commence a proceeding in the Family Division of the Superior Court concerning a child who is alleged to have committed an offense after attaining 16 years of age but not 22 years of age that could otherwise be filed in the Criminal Division.

(c) If a State's Attorney files a petition under subdivision (a)(1) of this section, the case shall proceed as provided under subsection 5281(b) of this title.

(d) Within 15 days after the commencement of a youthful offender proceeding pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, the youth shall be offered a risk and needs screening, which shall be conducted by the Department or by a community provider that has contracted with the Department to provide risk and needs screenings. The risk and needs screening shall be completed prior to the youthful offender status hearing held pursuant to section 5283 of this title. Unless the court extends the period for the risk and needs screening for good cause shown, the Family Division shall reject the case for youthful offender treatment if the youth does not complete the risk and needs screening within 15 days.

(1) The Department or the community provider shall report the risk level result of the screening, the number and source of the collateral contacts

made, and the recommendation for charging or other alternatives to the State's Attorney.

(2) Information related to the present alleged offense directly or indirectly derived from the risk and needs screening or other conversation with the Department or community-based provider shall not be used against the youth in the youth's criminal or juvenile case for any purpose, including impeachment or cross-examination. However, the fact of participation in risk and needs screening may be used in subsequent proceedings.

(e) If a youth presents a low to moderate risk to reoffend based on the results of the risk and needs screening, the State's Attorney shall refer a youth directly to court diversion unless the State's Attorney states on the record at the hearing held pursuant to section 5283 of this title why a referral would not serve the ends of justice. If the court diversion program does not accept the case or if the youth fails to complete the program in a manner deemed satisfactory and timely by the provider, the youth's case shall return to the State's Attorney for charging consideration.

Sec. 6. 33 V.S.A. § 5282 is amended to read:

§ 5282. REPORT FROM THE DEPARTMENT

(a) ~~Within 30 days after the case is transferred to the Family Division or a youthful offender petition is filed in the Family Division, youth has completed the risk and needs screening pursuant to section 5280 of this title, unless the court extends the period for good cause shown, the Department for Children and Families shall file a report with the Family Division of the Superior Court.~~

* * *

Sec. 7. 33 V.S.A. § 5801 is amended to read:

§ 5801. WOODSIDE JUVENILE REHABILITATION CENTER

(a) The Woodside Juvenile Rehabilitation Center in the town of Essex shall be operated by the Department for Children and Families as a residential treatment facility that provides in-patient psychiatric, mental health, and substance abuse services in a secure setting for adolescents who have been adjudicated or charged with a delinquency or criminal act.

(b) The total capacity of the facility shall not exceed 30 beds.

(c) The purpose or capacity of the Woodside Juvenile Rehabilitation Center shall not be altered except by act of the General Assembly following a study recommending any change of use by the Agency of Human Services.

(d) No person who has reached his or her 18th birthday may be placed at Woodside. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a person under ~~the age~~

of 18 years of age may be placed at Woodside, provided that he or she meets the admissions criteria for treatment as established by the Department for Children and Families. Any person already placed at Woodside may voluntarily continue receiving treatment at Woodside beyond his or her 18th birthday, provided that he or she continues to meet the criteria established by the Department for continued treatment. The Commissioner shall ensure that a child placed at Woodside has the same or equivalent due process rights as a child placed at Woodside in its previous role as a detention facility ~~prior to the enactment of this act.~~

Sec. 8. DEPARTMENT FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES; EXPANDING JUVENILE JURISDICTION; REPORT

The Department for Children and Families, in consultation with the Department of State's Attorneys and Sheriffs, the Office of the Defender General, the Court Administrator, and the Commissioner of Corrections, shall:

(1) consider the implications of expanding juvenile jurisdiction under 33 V.S.A. chapters 52 and 52a to encompass 18- and 19-year-olds beginning in fiscal year 2021;

(2) report on the status and plan for the expansion, including necessary funding, to the Joint Legislative Justice Oversight Committee on or before November 1, 2018; and

(3) provide status update reports to the Joint Legislative Justice Oversight Committee on or before November 1, 2019 and November 1, 2020.

* * * Effective July 1, 2020 * * *

Sec. 9. 33 V.S.A. § 5201 is amended as follows:

§ 5201. COMMENCEMENT OF DELINQUENCY PROCEEDINGS

(a) Proceedings under this chapter shall be commenced by:

(1) transfer to the court of a proceeding from another court as provided in section 5203 of this title; or

(2) the filing of a delinquency petition by a State's Attorney.

(b) If the proceeding is commenced by transfer from another court, no petition need be filed; however, the State's Attorney shall provide to the court the name and address of the child's custodial parent, guardian, or custodian and the name and address of any noncustodial parent if known.

(c) Any proceeding concerning a child who is alleged to have committed an act specified in subsection 5204(a) of this title after attaining 14 years of age, but not 18 years of age, shall originate in the Criminal Division of the Superior Court, provided that jurisdiction may be transferred in accordance with this chapter.

(d) Any proceeding concerning a child who is alleged to have committed a ~~misdemeanor~~ any offense other than those specified in subsection 5204(a) of this title before attaining ~~18~~ 19 years of age shall originate in the Family Division of the Superior Court, provided that jurisdiction may be transferred in accordance with this chapter.

~~(e) Any proceeding concerning a child who is alleged to have committed a felony offense other than those specified in subsection 5204(a) of this title before attaining 18 years of age shall originate in the Family Division of the Superior Court provided that jurisdiction may be transferred in accordance with this chapter. [Repealed.]~~

(f) If the State requests that custody of the child be transferred to the Department, a temporary care hearing shall be held as provided in subchapter 3 of this chapter.

(g) A petition may be withdrawn by the State's Attorney at any time prior to the hearing thereon, in which event the child shall be returned to the custodial parent, guardian, or custodian, the proceedings under this chapter terminated, and all files and documents relating thereto sealed under section 5119 of this title.

Sec. 10. 33 V.S.A. § 5202 is amended as follows:

§ 5202. ORDER OF ADJUDICATION; NONCRIMINAL

(a)(1) An order of the Family Division of the Superior Court in proceedings under this chapter shall not:

(A) be deemed a conviction of crime;

(B) impose any civil disabilities sanctions ordinarily resulting from a conviction; or

(C) operate to disqualify the child in any civil service application or appointment.

(2) Notwithstanding subdivision (1) of this subsection, an order of delinquency in proceedings ~~transferred under subsection 5203(b) of this title, where the offense charged in the initial criminal proceedings was concerning a child who is alleged to have committed~~ a violation of those sections of Title 23 specified in ~~subdivision 23~~ 23 V.S.A. § 801(a)(1); shall be an event in addition to those specified therein, enabling the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles to require proof of financial responsibility under 23 V.S.A. chapter 11.

(b) The disposition of a child and evidence given in a hearing in a juvenile proceeding shall not be admissible as evidence against the child in any case or proceeding in any other court except after a subsequent conviction of a felony in proceedings to determine the sentence.

Sec. 11. 33 V.S.A. § 5203 is amended to read:

§ 5203. TRANSFER FROM OTHER COURTS

(a) If it appears to a Criminal Division of the Superior Court that the defendant was under ~~18~~ 19 years of age at the time the offense charged was alleged to have been committed and the offense charged is an offense not specified in subsection 5204(a) of this title, that court shall forthwith transfer the proceeding to the Family Division of the Superior Court under the authority of this chapter, and the minor shall then be considered to be subject to this chapter as a child charged with a delinquent act.

(b) If it appears to a Criminal Division of the Superior Court that the defendant had attained 14 years of age but not 18 years of age at the time an offense specified in subsection 5204(a) of this title was alleged to have been committed, that court may forthwith transfer the proceeding to the Family Division of the Superior Court under the authority of this chapter, and the minor shall then be considered to be subject to this chapter as a child charged with a delinquent act.

(c) If it appears to the State's Attorney that the defendant was under ~~18~~ 19 years of age at the time the felony offense charged was alleged to have been committed and the felony charged is not an offense specified in subsection 5204(a) of this title, the State's Attorney shall file charges in the Family Division of the Superior Court, pursuant to section 5201 of this title. The Family Division may transfer the proceeding to the Criminal Division pursuant to section 5204 of this title.

(d) A transfer under this section shall include a transfer and delivery of a copy of the accusatory pleading and other papers, documents, and transcripts of testimony relating to the case. Upon any such transfer, that court shall order that the defendant be taken forthwith to a place of detention designated by the Family Division of the Superior Court or to that court itself, or shall release the child to the custody of his or her parent or guardian or other person legally responsible for the child, to be brought before the Family Division of the Superior Court at a time designated by that court. The Family Division of the Superior Court shall then proceed as provided in this chapter as if a petition alleging delinquency had been filed with the court under section 5223 of this title on the effective date of such transfer.

(e) Motions to transfer a case to the Family Division of the Superior Court for youthful offender treatment shall be made under section 5281 of this title.

Sec. 12. 33 V.S.A. § 5204 is amended as follows:

§ 5204. TRANSFER FROM FAMILY DIVISION OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(a) After a petition has been filed alleging delinquency, upon motion of the State's Attorney and after hearing, the Family Division of the Superior Court may transfer jurisdiction of the proceeding to the Criminal Division of the Superior Court, if the child had attained 16 years of age but not ~~18~~ 19 years of age at the time the act was alleged to have occurred and the delinquent act set forth in the petition is a felony not specified in subdivisions (1)-(12) of this subsection or if the child had attained 12 years of age but not 14 years of age at the time the act was alleged to have occurred, and if the delinquent act set forth in the petition was any of the following:

- (1) arson causing death as defined in 13 V.S.A. § 501;
- (2) assault and robbery with a dangerous weapon as defined in 13 V.S.A. § 608(b);
- (3) assault and robbery causing bodily injury as defined in 13 V.S.A. § 608(c);
- (4) aggravated assault as defined in 13 V.S.A. § 1024;
- (5) murder as defined in 13 V.S.A. § 2301;
- (6) manslaughter as defined in 13 V.S.A. § 2304;
- (7) kidnapping as defined in 13 V.S.A. § 2405;
- (8) unlawful restraint as defined in 13 V.S.A. § 2406 or 2407;
- (9) maiming as defined in 13 V.S.A. § 2701;
- (10) sexual assault as defined in 13 V.S.A. § 3252(a)(1) or (a)(2);
- (11) aggravated sexual assault as defined in 13 V.S.A. § 3253; or
- (12) burglary into an occupied dwelling as defined in 13 V.S.A. § 1201(c).

(b) The State's Attorney of the county where the juvenile petition is pending may move in the Family Division of the Superior Court for an order transferring jurisdiction under subsection (a) of this section at any time prior to adjudication on the merits. The filing of the motion to transfer jurisdiction shall automatically stay the time for the hearing provided for in section 5225 of this title, which stay shall remain in effect until such time as the Family Division of the Superior Court may deny the motion to transfer jurisdiction.

* * *

* * * Effective July 1, 2022 * * *

Sec. 13. 33 V.S.A. § 5201 is amended as follows:

§ 5201. COMMENCEMENT OF DELINQUENCY PROCEEDINGS

(a) Proceedings under this chapter shall be commenced by:

(1) transfer to the court of a proceeding from another court as provided in subsection (c) of this section; or

(2) the filing of a delinquency petition by a State's Attorney.

(b) If the proceeding is commenced by transfer from another court, no petition need be filed; however, the State's Attorney shall provide to the court the name and address of the child's custodial parent, guardian, or custodian and the name and address of any noncustodial parent if known.

(c) Any proceeding concerning a child who is alleged to have committed an act specified in subsection 5204(a) of this title after attaining 14 years of age, but not 18 years of age, shall originate in the Criminal Division of the Superior Court, provided that jurisdiction may be transferred in accordance with this chapter.

(d) Any proceeding concerning a child who is alleged to have committed any offense other than those specified in subsection 5204(a) of this title before attaining ~~19~~ 20 years of age shall originate in the Family Division of the Superior Court, provided that jurisdiction may be transferred in accordance with this chapter.

* * *

Sec. 14. 33 V.S.A. § 5203 is amended to read:

§ 5203. TRANSFER FROM OTHER COURTS

(a) If it appears to a Criminal Division of the Superior Court that the defendant was under ~~19~~ 20 years of age at the time the offense charged was alleged to have been committed and the offense charged is an offense not specified in subsection 5204(a) of this title, that court shall forthwith transfer the proceeding to the Family Division of the Superior Court under the authority of this chapter, and the minor shall then be considered to be subject to this chapter as a child charged with a delinquent act.

(b) If it appears to a Criminal Division of the Superior Court that the defendant had attained 14 years of age but not 18 years of age at the time an offense specified in subsection 5204(a) of this title was alleged to have been committed, that court may forthwith transfer the proceeding to the Family Division of the Superior Court under the authority of this chapter, and the minor shall then be considered to be subject to this chapter as a child charged with a delinquent act.

(c) If it appears to the State's Attorney that the defendant was under ~~19~~ 20 years of age at the time the felony offense charged was alleged to have been committed and the felony charged is not an offense specified in subsection 5204(a) of this title, the State's Attorney shall file charges in the Family Division of the Superior Court, pursuant to section 5201 of this title. The Family Division may transfer the proceeding to the Criminal Division pursuant to section 5204 of this title.

(d) A transfer under this section shall include a transfer and delivery of a copy of the accusatory pleading and other papers, documents, and transcripts of testimony relating to the case. Upon any such transfer, that court shall order that the defendant be taken forthwith to a place of detention designated by the Family Division of the Superior Court or to that court itself, or shall release the child to the custody of his or her parent or guardian or other person legally responsible for the child, to be brought before the Family Division of the Superior Court at a time designated by that court. The Family Division of the Superior Court shall then proceed as provided in this chapter as if a petition alleging delinquency had been filed with the court under section 5223 of this title on the effective date of such transfer.

(e) Motions to transfer a case to the Family Division of the Superior Court for youthful offender treatment shall be made under section 5281 of this title.

Sec. 15. 33 V.S.A. § 5204 is amended as follows:

§ 5204. TRANSFER FROM FAMILY DIVISION OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

(a) After a petition has been filed alleging delinquency, upon motion of the State's Attorney and after hearing, the Family Division of the Superior Court may transfer jurisdiction of the proceeding to the Criminal Division of the Superior Court, if the child had attained 16 years of age but not ~~19~~ 20 years of age at the time the act was alleged to have occurred and the delinquent act set forth in the petition is a felony not specified in subdivisions (1)-(12) of this subsection or if the child had attained 12 years of age but not 14 years of age at the time the act was alleged to have occurred, and if the delinquent act set forth in the petition was any of the following:

- (1) arson causing death as defined in 13 V.S.A. § 501;
- (2) assault and robbery with a dangerous weapon as defined in 13 V.S.A. § 608(b);
- (3) assault and robbery causing bodily injury as defined in 13 V.S.A. § 608(c);
- (4) aggravated assault as defined in 13 V.S.A. § 1024;

- (5) murder as defined in 13 V.S.A. § 2301;
- (6) manslaughter as defined in 13 V.S.A. § 2304;
- (7) kidnapping as defined in 13 V.S.A. § 2405;
- (8) unlawful restraint as defined in 13 V.S.A. § 2406 or 2407;
- (9) maiming as defined in 13 V.S.A. § 2701;
- (10) sexual assault as defined in 13 V.S.A. § 3252(a)(1) or (a)(2);
- (11) aggravated sexual assault as defined in 13 V.S.A. § 3253; or
- (12) burglary into an occupied dwelling as defined in 13 V.S.A. § 1201(c).

(b) The State’s Attorney of the county where the juvenile petition is pending may move in the Family Division of the Superior Court for an order transferring jurisdiction under subsection (a) of this section at any time prior to adjudication on the merits. The filing of the motion to transfer jurisdiction shall automatically stay the time for the hearing provided for in section 5225 of this title, which stay shall remain in effect until such time as the Family Division of the Superior Court may deny the motion to transfer jurisdiction.

* * *

* * * Appropriation * * *

Sec. 16. APPROPRIATION

In fiscal year 2019 there is appropriated the sum of \$200,000.00 to the Department for Children and Families from the General Fund to prepare for the expansion of services to 18 and 19 year old juvenile offenders pursuant to 33 V.S.A. chapters 52 and 52A beginning in fiscal year 2021, with any unexpended funds to carry forward.

* * * Effective Dates * * *

Sec. 17. EFFECTIVE DATES

- (a) This section, Sec. 4, and Sec. 16 shall take effect on passage.
- (b) Secs. 1-3 and 5-8 shall take effect on July 1, 2018.
- (c) Secs. 9-12 shall take effect on July 1, 2020.
- (d) Secs. 13-15 shall take effect on July 1, 2022.

And that after passage the title of the bill be amended to read:

An act relating to adjudicating all teenagers in the Family Division, except those charged with a serious violent felony.

(Committee vote: 5-0-0)

Reported favorably with recommendation of amendment by Senator Sears for the Committee on Appropriations.

The Committee recommends that the bill be amended as recommended by the Committee on Judiciary with the following amendment thereto:

By striking out Sec. 16 (Appropriation) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 16. FUNDING

To the extent the sum of \$200,000.00 is appropriated in fiscal year 2019 from the General Fund to the Department for Children and Families, the Department shall prepare for the expansion of services to juvenile offenders 18 and 19 years of age pursuant to 33 V.S.A. chapters 52 and 52A beginning in fiscal year 2021, and shall carry forward any unexpended funds.

(Committee vote: 7-0-0)

Senate Resolution For Action

S.R. 12.

Senate resolution relating to relating to adoption of a temporary Rule 44A.

PENDING QUESTION: Shall the resolution be adopted?

Text of resolution:

That a temporary rule, to be designated Rule 44A, be adopted by the Senate, to read as follows:

Rule 44A. (a) Any bill failing to make the crossover dates of March 2, 2018 and March 16, 2018 shall be referred to the Committee on Rules. This provision shall not apply to the following measures:

- (1) transportation capital bill;
- (2) capital construction bill;
- (3) general appropriations bill (“The Big Bill”); and
- (4) fee and tax bills.

(b) The Rules Committee may report any bills referred to it for reference to another committee of jurisdiction pursuant to Senate Rule 24.

(c) This Temporary Rule 44A shall expire on the convening of the 2019 biennial session.

NOTICE CALENDAR

Second Reading

Favorable

S. 165.

An act relating to preemployment health screenings for hospital employees.

Reported favorably by Senator Ingram for the Committee on Health and Welfare.

(Committee vote: 5-0-0)

H. 150.

An act relating to parole eligibility.

Reported favorably by Senator Soucy for the Committee on Institutions.

(Committee vote: 5-0-0)

(For House amendments, see House Journal of April 18, 2017, page 720)

Favorable with Recommendation of Amendment

S. 203.

An act relating to systemic improvements of the mental health system.

Reported favorably with recommendation of amendment by Senator McCormack for the Committee on Health and Welfare.

The Committee recommends that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. ORDER OF NON-HOSPITALIZATION STUDY COMMITTEE

(a) Creation. There is created the Order of Non-Hospitalization Study Committee to examine the strengths and weaknesses of Vermont's orders of non-hospitalizations for the purpose of improving patient care.

(b) Membership. The Committee shall be composed of the following 11 members:

(1) the Commissioner of Mental Health or designee;

(2) the Commissioner of Public Safety or designee;

(3) the Chief Superior Judge or designee;

(4) a member appointed by the Vermont Care Partners;

(5) a member appointed by the Vermont Association of Hospitals and Health Systems;

- (6) a member appointed by Vermont Legal Aid’s Mental Health Project;
- (7) a member appointed by the Executive Director of the Department of State’s Attorneys and Sheriffs;
- (8) the Vermont Defender General or designee;
- (9) the Executive Director of Vermont Psychiatric Survivors or designee;
- (10) an individual who was previously under an order of non-hospitalization, appointed by Vermont Psychiatric Survivors; and
- (11) the family member of an individual who is currently or was previously under an order of non-hospitalization, appointed by the Vermont chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness.

(c) Powers and duties. The Committee shall examine the strengths and weaknesses of Vermont’s orders of non-hospitalization for the purpose of improving patient care and may propose a pilot project that seeks to redress any weaknesses and build upon any existing strengths. The Committee shall:

- (1) review and understand existing laws pertaining to orders of non-hospitalization, including 1996 Acts and Resolves No. 114;
- (2) review the 2017 Treatment Advocacy Center report entitled “Reimagining ONH,” including the efficacy of each recommendation in the report;
- (3) review existing data pertaining to orders of non-hospitalization, including data pertaining to individuals entering the mental health system through both civil and forensic procedures;
- (4) if appropriate, propose a pilot project for the purpose of improving the efficacy of orders of non-hospitalization;
- (5) if appropriate, recommend any changes necessary to approve the efficacy of orders of non-hospitalization; and
- (6) identify statutory changes necessary to implement recommended changes to orders of non-hospitalization, if any.

(d) Assistance. The Committee shall have the administrative, technical, and legal assistance of the Department of Mental Health.

(e) Report. On or before November 1, 2018, the Committee shall submit a written report to the House Committee on Health Care and the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare with its findings and any recommendations for legislative action.

(f) Meetings.

(1) The Commissioner of Mental Health or designee shall call the first meeting of the Committee to occur on or before August 1, 2018.

(2) The Commissioner of Mental Health or designee shall be the Chair.

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

(4) The Committee shall cease to exist on December 1, 2018.

(g) Compensation and reimbursement. Members of the Committee who are not employees of the State of Vermont and who are not otherwise compensated or reimbursed for their attendance shall be entitled to per diem compensation and reimbursement of expenses pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 1010 for not more than four meetings. These payments shall be made from monies appropriated to the Department of Mental Health.

Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2018.

(Committee vote: 5-0-0)

Reported favorably by Senator McCormack for the Committee on Appropriations.

The Committee recommends that the bill be amended as recommended by the Committee on Health and Welfare and when so amended ought to pass.

(Committee vote: 7-0-0)

S. 222.

An act relating to technical amendments to civil and criminal procedure statutes.

Reported favorably with recommendation of amendment by Senator Sears for the Committee on Judiciary.

The Committee recommends that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 10 V.S.A. § 8007(c) is amended to read:

(c) An assurance of discontinuance shall be in writing and signed by the respondent and shall specify the statute or regulation alleged to have been violated. The assurance of discontinuance shall be simultaneously filed with the Attorney General and the Environmental Division. The Secretary or the Natural Resources Board shall post a final draft assurance of discontinuance to its website and shall provide a final draft assurance of discontinuance to a person upon request. When signed by the Environmental Division, the assurance shall become a judicial order. Upon motion by the Attorney General made within ~~10~~ 14 days ~~of~~ after the date the assurance is signed by the

Division and upon a finding that the order is insufficient to carry out the purposes of this chapter, the Division shall vacate the order.

Sec. 2. 12 V.S.A. § 1 is amended to read:

§ 1. RULES OF PLEADING, PRACTICE, AND PROCEDURE; FORMS

The Supreme Court is empowered to prescribe and amend from time to time general rules with respect to pleadings, practice, evidence, procedure, and forms for all actions and proceedings in all courts of this State. The rules thus prescribed or amended shall not abridge, enlarge, or modify any substantive rights of any person provided by law. The rules when initially prescribed or any amendments thereto, including any repeal, modification, or addition, shall take effect on the date provided by the Supreme Court in its order of promulgation, unless objected to by the ~~Joint~~ Legislative Committee on Judicial Rules as provided by this chapter. If objection is made by the ~~Joint~~ Legislative Committee on Judicial Rules, the initially prescribed rules in question shall not take effect until they have been reported to the General Assembly by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court at any regular, adjourned, or special session thereof, and until after the expiration of 45 legislative days of that session, including the date of the filing of the report. The General Assembly may repeal, revise, or modify any rule or amendment thereto, and its action shall not be abridged, enlarged, or modified by subsequent rule.

Sec. 3. 12 V.S.A. § 2 is amended to read:

§ 2. DEFINITIONS

As used in sections 3 and 4 of this chapter:

(1) “Adopting authority” means the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court or the ~~administrative judge~~ Chief Superior Judge, where appropriate;

(2) “Court” means the Supreme Court, except in those instances where the statutes permit rules to be adopted by the ~~administrative judge~~ Chief Superior Judge, in which case, the word “court” means the ~~administrative judge~~; Chief Superior Judge.

* * *

Sec. 4. 12 V.S.A. § 701 is amended to read:

§ 701. SUMMONS

(a) Any law enforcement officer authorized to serve criminal process or a State’s Attorney may summon a person who commits an offense to appear before Superior Court by a summons in such form as prescribed by the Court Administrator, stating the time when, and the place where, the person shall appear, signed by the enforcement officer or State’s Attorney and delivered to the person.

* * *

~~(d) A person who does not so appear in response to a summons for a traffic offense as defined in 23 V.S.A. § 2201 shall be fined not more than \$100.00. [Repealed.]~~

Sec. 5. 12 V.S.A. § 3125 is amended to read:

§ 3125. PAYMENT OF TRUSTEE'S CLAIM BY CREDITOR

When it appears that personal property in the hands of a person summoned as a trustee is mortgaged, pledged, or liable for the payment of a debt due to him or her, the court may allow the attaching creditor to pay or tender the amount due to the trustee, and he or she shall thereupon deliver such property, as ~~hereinbefore~~ provided in this subchapter, to the officer holding the execution.

Sec. 6. 12 V.S.A. § 3351 is amended to read:

§ 3351. ATTACHMENT, TAKING IN EXECUTION, AND SALE

Personal property not exempt from attachment, subject to a mortgage, pledge, or lien, may be attached, taken in execution, and sold as the property of the mortgagor, pledgor, or general owner, in the same manner as other personal property, except as ~~hereinafter~~ otherwise provided in this subchapter.

Sec. 7. 18 V.S.A. § 4245 is amended to read:

§ 4245. REMISSION OR MITIGATION OF FORFEITURE

(a) On petition filed within 90 days ~~of~~ after completion of a forfeiture proceeding, ~~the claims commission established in 32 V.S.A. § 931~~ a court that issued a forfeiture order pursuant to section 4244 of this title may order that the forfeiture be remitted or mitigated. The petition shall be sworn, and shall include all information necessary for its resolution or shall describe where such information can be obtained. Upon receiving a petition, the ~~claims commission court~~ shall investigate and may conduct a hearing if in its judgment it would be helpful to resolution of the petition. The ~~claims commission court~~ shall either grant or deny the petition within 90 days.

(b) The ~~claims commission court~~ may remit or mitigate a forfeiture upon finding that relief should be granted to avoid extreme hardship or upon finding that the petitioner has a valid, good faith interest in the property which is not held through a straw purchase, trust, or otherwise for the benefit of another and that the petitioner did not at any time have knowledge or reason to believe that the property was being or would be used in violation of the law.

Sec. 8. 18 V.S.A. § 4474g(b) is amended to read:

(b) Prior to acting on an application for a Registry identification card, the

Department shall obtain with respect to the applicant a Vermont criminal history record, an out-of-state criminal history record, and a criminal history record from the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Each applicant shall consent to the release of criminal history records to the Department on forms developed by the Vermont Crime Information Center. A fingerprint-supported, out-of-state criminal history record and a criminal history record from the Federal Bureau of Investigation shall be required only every three years for renewal of a card for a dispensary owner, principal, and financier.

Sec. 9. REPEAL

2017 Acts and Resolves No. 11, Sec. 60 (amending 32 V.S.A. § 5412) is repealed.

Sec. 10. 3 V.S.A. § 163 is amended to read:

§ 163. JUVENILE COURT DIVERSION PROJECT

(a) The Attorney General shall develop and administer a juvenile court diversion project for the purpose of assisting juveniles charged with delinquent acts. ~~Rules which were adopted by the Vermont Commission on the Administration of Justice to implement the juvenile court diversion project shall be adapted by the Attorney General to the programs and projects established under this section.~~ In consultation with the diversion programs, the Attorney General shall adopt a policies and procedures manual in compliance with this section.

(b) ~~The diversion project program administered by the Attorney General shall encourage the development~~ support the operation of diversion projects ~~programs~~ in local communities through grants of financial assistance to, ~~or by contracting for services with,~~ municipalities, private groups, or other local organizations. The Attorney General may require local financial contributions as a condition of receipt of project ~~grants~~ funding.

* * *

Sec. 11. 3 V.S.A. § 164 is amended to read:

§ 164. ADULT COURT DIVERSION PROGRAM

(a) The Attorney General shall develop and administer an adult court diversion program in all counties. ~~The program shall be operated through the juvenile diversion project.~~ In consultation with Diversion programs, the Attorney General shall adopt only such rules as are necessary to establish an adult court diversion program for adults a policies and procedures manual, in compliance with this section.

* * *

(c) The program shall ~~encourage the development~~ support the operation of diversion programs in local communities through grants of financial assistance to, or contracts for services with, municipalities, private groups, or other local organizations. The Attorney General may require local financial contributions as a condition of receipt of program ~~grants~~ funding.

* * *

(e) All adult court diversion programs receiving financial assistance from the Attorney General shall adhere to the following provisions:

(1) The diversion program shall accept only persons against whom charges have been filed and the court has found probable cause, but are not yet adjudicated. The prosecuting attorney may refer a person to diversion either before or after arraignment and shall notify in writing the diversion program and the court of his or her intention to refer the person to diversion. The matter shall become confidential when notice is provided to the court. If a person is charged with a qualifying crime as defined in 13 V.S.A. § 7601(4)(A) and the crime is a misdemeanor, the prosecutor shall provide the person with the opportunity to participate in the court diversion program unless the prosecutor states on the record at arraignment or a subsequent hearing why a referral to the program would not serve the ends of justice. If the prosecuting attorney refers a case to diversion, the prosecuting attorney may release information to the victim upon a showing of legitimate need and subject to an appropriate protective agreement defining the purpose for which the information is being released and in all other respects maintaining the confidentiality of the information; otherwise files held by the court, the prosecuting attorney, and the law enforcement agency related to the charges shall be confidential and shall remain confidential unless:

(A) the ~~Board~~ diversion program declines to accept the case;

(B) the person declines to participate in diversion;

(C) the ~~Board~~ diversion program accepts the case, but the person does not successfully complete diversion; or

(D) the prosecuting attorney recalls the referral to diversion.

* * *

(7)(A) The Irrespective of whether a record was expunged, the adult court diversion program shall maintain sufficient records so that the reasons for success or failure of the program in particular cases and overall can be investigated by program staff. These records shall include a centralized statewide filing system that will include the following information about individuals who have successfully completed an adult court diversion program:

- (i) name and date of birth;
- (ii) offense charged and date of offense;
- (iii) place of residence;
- (iv) county where diversion process took place; and
- (v) date of completion of diversion process.

(B) These records shall not be available to anyone other than the participant and his or her attorney, State's Attorneys, the Attorney General, and directors of adult court diversion programs.

(C) Notwithstanding subdivision (B) of this subsection (e), the Attorney General shall, upon request, provide to a participant or his or her attorney sufficient documentation to show that the participant successfully completed diversion.

* * *

(g)(1) Within 30 days of after the two-year anniversary of a successful completion of adult diversion, the court shall provide notice to all parties of record of the court's intention to order the sealing expungement of all court files and records, law enforcement records other than entries in the adult court diversion program's centralized filing system, fingerprints, and photographs applicable to the proceeding. The court shall give the State's Attorney an opportunity for a hearing to contest the sealing expungement of the records. The court shall seal expunge the records if it finds:

(1)(A) two years have elapsed since the successful completion of the adult diversion program by the participant and the dismissal of the case by the State's Attorney;

(2)(B) the participant has not been convicted of a subsequent felony or misdemeanor during the two-year period, and no proceedings are pending seeking such conviction; and

(3)(C) rehabilitation of the participant has been attained to the satisfaction of the court.

(2) The court may expunge any records that were sealed pursuant to this subsection prior to July 1, 2018 unless the State's Attorney's office that prosecuted the case objects. Thirty days prior to expunging a record pursuant to this subdivision, the court shall provide written notice of its intent to expunge the record to the State's Attorney's office that prosecuted the case.

(3)(A) The court shall keep a special index of cases that have been expunged pursuant to this section together with the expungement order. The index shall list only the name of the person convicted of the offense, his or her

date of birth, the docket number, and the criminal offense that was the subject of the expungement.

(B) The special index and related documents specified in subdivision (A) of this subdivision (3) shall be confidential and shall be physically and electronically segregated in a manner that ensures confidentiality and that limits access to authorized persons.

(C) Inspection of the expungement order and the certificate may be permitted only upon petition by the person who is the subject of the case or by the court if the court finds that inspection of the documents is necessary to serve the interests of justice. The Chief Superior Judge may permit special access to the index and the documents for research purposes pursuant to the rules for public access to court records.

(D) The Court Administrator shall establish policies for implementing this subsection (g).

~~(h) Upon~~ Except as otherwise provided in this section, upon the entry of an order sealing ~~such expunging~~ files and records under this section, the proceedings in the matter ~~under this section~~ shall be considered never to have occurred, all index references thereto shall be deleted, and the participant, the court, and law enforcement officers and departments shall reply to any request for information that no record exists with respect to such participant inquiry in any matter. Copies of the order shall be sent to each agency or official named therein.

~~(i) Inspection of the files and records included in the order may thereafter be permitted by the court only upon petition by the participant who is the subject of such records, and only to those persons named therein. [Repealed.]~~

(j) The process of automatically sealing ~~expunging~~ records as provided in this section shall only apply to those persons who completed diversion on or after July 1, 2002. Any person who completed diversion prior to July 1, 2002 must apply to the court to have his or her records sealed ~~expunged~~. Sealing Expungement shall occur if the requirements of subsection (g) of this section are met.

* * *

Sec. 12. 13 V.S.A. § 15 is added to read:

§ 15. USE OF VIDEO

(a) Except as provided by subsection (b) of this section, proceedings governed by Rules 5 and 10 of the Vermont Rules of Criminal Procedure and chapter 229 of this title shall be in person and on the record, and shall not be performed by video conferencing or other electronic means until the Defender

General and the Executive Director of the Department of Sheriffs and State's Attorneys execute a joint certification that the video conferencing program in use by the court at the site where the proceeding occurs adequately ensures attorney-client confidentiality and the client's meaningful participation in the proceeding.

(b) A proceeding at which subsection (a) of this section applies may be performed by video conferencing if counsel for the defendant or a defendant not represented by counsel consents.

Sec. 13. 13 V.S.A. § 2301 is amended to read:

§ 2301. MURDER-DEGREES DEFINED

Murder committed by means of poison, or by lying in wait, or by wilful willful, deliberate, and premeditated killing, or committed in perpetrating or attempting to perpetrate arson, sexual assault, aggravated sexual assault, kidnapping, robbery, or burglary, shall be murder in the first degree. All other kinds of murder shall be murder in the second degree.

Sec. 14. EARNED GOOD TIME; REPORT

On or before November 15, 2018, the Commissioner of Corrections, in consultation with the Chief Superior Judge, the Attorney General, the Executive Director of the Department of Sheriffs and State's Attorneys, and the Defender General, shall report to the Senate and House Committees on Judiciary, the Senate Committee on Institutions, and the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions on the advisability and feasibility of reinstating a system of earned good time for persons under the supervision of the Department of Corrections.

Sec. 15. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on passage.

And that after passage the title of the bill be amended to read:

An act relating to miscellaneous judiciary procedures.

(Committee vote: 5-0-0)

CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS FOR ACTION

H.C.R. 249 - 260 (For text of Resolutions, see Addendum to House Calendar for February 22, 2018)

CONFIRMATIONS

The following appointments will be considered by the Senate, as a group, under suspension of the Rules, as moved by the President *pro tempore*, for confirmation together and without debate, by consent thereby given by the Senate. However, upon request of any senator, any appointment may be singled out and acted upon separately by the Senate, with consideration given to the report of the Committee to which the appointment was referred, and with full debate; and further, all appointments for the positions of Secretaries of Agencies, Commissioners of Departments, Judges, Magistrates, and members of the Public Service Board shall be fully and separately acted upon.

Adam Greshin of Warren - Commissioner of the Department of Finance and Management (term 7/10/17 - 2/28/19) - By Senator Clarkson for the Committee on Government Operations. (2/28/19)

Richard J. Wobby of Northfield - Member of the Liquor Control Board - By Senator Ayer for the Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs. (2/21/18)

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

CROSS OVER DATES

The Joint Rules Committee established the following Crossover deadlines:

(1) All **Senate/House** bills must be reported out of the last committee of reference (including the Committees on Appropriations and Finance/Ways and Means, except as provided below in (2) and the exceptions listed below) on or before **Friday, March 2, 2018**, and filed with the Secretary/Clerk so they may be placed on the Calendar for Notice the next legislative day.

(2) All **Senate/House** bills referred pursuant to Senate Rule 31 or House Rule 35(a) to the Committees on Appropriations and Finance/Ways and Means must be reported out by the last of those committees on or before **Friday, March 16, 2018**, and filed with the Secretary/Clerk so they may be placed on the Calendar for Notice the next legislative day.

Note: The Senate will not act on bills that do not meet these crossover deadlines, without the consent of the Senate Rules Committee.

Exceptions to the foregoing deadlines include the major money bills (Appropriations “Big Bill”, Transportation Spending Bill, Capital Construction Bill, and Fee Bill).