## **Side-by Side Comparison of S.136** An Relating to Miscellaneous Consumer Protection Provisions May 2, 2017 @ 8:00 AM

Sections highlighted in yellow address the same subject but with differences highlighted in yellow within the text

Sections highlighted in turquoise are identical

Subject	Sec. Senate/House	As Passed Senate	As Passed House
Residential Home Improvement Contracts	1 -	Sec. 1. 9 V.S.A. chapter 102 is amended to read:  CHAPTER 102. CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS  § 4001. DEFINITIONS  As used in this chapter:  (1) "Contractor" means a person or entity which contracts with an owner to perform work, or provide materials or machinery necessary to perform work on real property.  (2) "Work" means:  (A) to build, alter, repair, or demolish any improvement on, connected with, or on or beneath the surface of any real property, or to excavate, clear, grade, fill, or landscape any real property or to construct driveways, private roadways, highways and bridges, drilled wells, septic, sewage systems, utilities, including trees and shrubbery, or to furnish materials, for any of such purposes, or to perform any labor upon real property. "Work" also includes: and  (B) to provide any design or other professional or skilled services rendered by architects, engineers, land surveyors, landscape architects, and construction managers.  (3) "Owner" means a person or entity having an interest in real property on which work is performed, if the person or entity has agreed to or requested such work. "Owner" includes successors in interest of the owner and agents of the owner acting within their authority. "Owner" shall also include the State of Vermont and instrumentalities and subdivisions of the State of Vermont including municipalities and school districts having an interest in such real property.  (4) "Real property" means real estate, including lands, leaseholds, tenements and hereditaments, and improvements placed thereon.  (5) "Construction contract" means any agreement, whether written or oral, to perform work on any real property located within the State of Vermont.  (6) "Subcontractor" means any person or entity which has contracted to perform work, or provide materials or machinery necessary to perform work for a contractor or another subcontractor in connection with a construction contract.  (7) "Delivery" means receipt by addressee, including first class, registered, or certified mail, hand delive	

- addressed, shall be deemed delivered three days from the day it was sent.
- (8) "Billing period" means the period agreed to by the parties or, in the absence of an agreement, the calendar month within which work is performed.
- (9) "Residential home improvement contract" means a contract between a contractor and an owner for work on residential real estate where the estimated value of the work and materials exceeds \$10,000.00.
- (10) "Residential real estate" means a residential structure with one to two dwelling units and the real property on which it is constructed.

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## § 4010. RESIDENTIAL HOME IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTS

- (a) Writing required. A residential home improvement contract, and any amendment to the contract, shall be in writing.
- (b) Required provisions. A residential home improvement contract shall include the following:
  - (1) Contract price. One of the following provisions for the price of the contract:
    - (A) a maximum price for all work and materials;
- (B) a statement that billing and payment will be made on a time and materials basis, not to exceed a maximum price; or
- (C) a statement that billing and payment will be made on a time and materials basis and that there is no maximum price.
  - (2) Work dates. A start date and a completion date for work.
- (3) Scope of work. A description of the work to be performed and a description of the materials to be used.
- (4) Warranty. A provision that reads: "In addition to any other warranties agreed to by the parties, the contractor warrants that his or her work is free from faulty materials and is performed in a skillful manner according to the standards of the building code applicable for this location or to a higher standard agreed to by the parties."
  - (5) Change order.
- (A) Unless a residential home improvement contract specifies that billing and payment will be made on a time and materials basis and that there is no maximum price, subject to subdivision (B) of this subdivision (5), a provision that the contractor shall not perform any work or procure materials in excess of the maximum price of the contract without prior written approval of the owner.
- (B) The contract may provide that an owner can approve a change order verbally, provided that the owner and contractor shall memorialize the approval in a writing within three days of the approval.
- (c) Emergency work. If an owner requests a contractor to perform work in an emergency, the parties shall execute a residential home improvement contract not less than five days after the date on which the contractor completes the work.
- (d) Enforcement and remedies.
- (1) A contractor who violates a provision of this section commits an unfair and deceptive act in commerce in violation of section 2453 of this title.
- (2) The Attorney General has the same authority to adopt rules, conduct civil investigations, enter into assurances of discontinuance, and bring civil actions to enforce

		the provisions of this section as is provided under chapter 63, subchapter 1 of this title.  (e) Sample contract. The Attorney General shall adopt and make available on its website a sample residential home improvement contract, which a contractor may or may not use, that is consistent with the provisions of this section.	
Mortgage Escrow Account Analysis	2	Sec. 2. 8 V.S.A. § 10404 is amended to read: § 10404. HOME LOAN ESCROW ACCOUNTS  ***  (g)(1) At least annually, a lender shall conduct an escrow account analysis at the completion of the escrow account computation year to determine the borrower's monthly escrow account payments for the next computation year.	Sec. 1. 8 V.S.A. § 10404 is amended to read: § 10404. HOME LOAN ESCROW ACCOUNTS  ***  (c) A lender shall not require a borrower to deposit into an escrow account any greater sum than is sufficient to pay taxes, insurance premiums, and other charges with respect to the residential real estate, subject to the following additional charges:  (1) a lender may require aggregate annual deposits no greater than the reasonably estimated total annual charges plus one twelfth one—sixth of such total; and  (2) a lender may require monthly deposits no greater than one-twelfth of the reasonably estimated total annual charges plus an amount needed to maintain an additional account balance no greater than one—twelfth one—sixth of such total.  ***  (g)(1) At least annually, at the completion of the escrow account computation year, a lender shall conduct an escrow account analysis to determine the borrower's monthly escrow account payments for the next computation year based on the borrower's current tax liability, if made available to the lender either by the borrower or the municipality, after any applicable adjustment for a State credit on property taxes.
		(2) Upon written or verbal notice from a borrower that his or her property tax bill has been revised, the lender shall review the property tax bill and upon verifying that it has been revised since the date of the last escrow account analysis, the lender shall, within 30 days of receiving notice from the borrower, conduct a new escrow account analysis and recalculate the borrower's monthly escrow payment accordingly.	(2) Upon receipt of a revised property tax bill, the lender shall review the property tax bill and, upon verifying that it has been reduced since the date of the last escrow account analysis, the lender shall, within 30 days of receiving the bill, conduct a new escrow account analysis, recalculate the borrower's monthly escrow payment, and notify the borrower of any change.
		(3) The lender shall provide annually, or upon request of the borrower, financial statements relating to the borrower's escrow account in a manner and on a form approved by the Commissioner at least annually, and whenever an escrow account analysis is conducted or a borrower requests such information. The lender shall not charge the borrower for the preparation and transmittal of such statements.  * * *	(3) The lender shall provide At least annually, and whenever an escrow account analysis is conducted or upon request of the borrower, the lender shall provide to the borrower financial statements relating to the borrower's escrow account in a manner and on a form approved by the Commissioner consistent with the federal Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act. The lender shall not charge the borrower for the preparation and transmittal of such statements.  ***
Fantasy Sports - Findings	-	2	Sec. 2. FANTASY SPORTS; FINDINGS AND PURPOSE  (a) Findings. The General Assembly finds:  (1) Participation in online fantasy sports contests throughout the nation has grown significantly in recent years and it is estimated that approximately 80,000 Vermonters have participated in at least one fantasy sports contest.  (2) At least 10 states have now recognized fantasy sports as a legal, regulated activity, and legislation has been introduced in many more states to recognize, regulate,

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				and tax the activity in order to identify contest operators, ensure fair play, and protect
				consumers.
				(3) Given the widespread participation in online fantasy sports contests, Vermont
				should carefully consider how best to regulate fantasy sports contests, register fantasy
				sports contest operators, and provide necessary protection for Vermont consumers.
				(b) Purpose. The purpose of Sec. 3 of this act is to direct the Attorney General and the
				Executive Branch to consider and propose an appropriate regulatory framework for
				fantasy sports contests.
				- Anthony opens contests:
				Sec. 3. FANTASY SPORTS CONTESTS; PROPOSALS
				(a) On or before December 15, 2017, the Attorney General shall submit to the House
				Committee on Commerce and Economic Development and the Senate Committee on
				Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs a proposal for necessary consumer
				protection provisions regulating fantasy sports contests and operators.
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Fantasy Sports – Study and Proposals	_	3		(b) On or before December 15, 2017, the Secretary of Administration shall submit to
Proposais				the House Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Committee on Finance a
				proposal for fantasy sports contests concerning:
				(1) registration requirements and a flat registration fee of an appropriate amount;
				and and
				(2) an appropriate percentage tax on an appropriate measure of revenue.
			Sec. 3. 9 V.S.A. chapter 116 is added to read:	
			CHAPTER 116. FANTASY SPORTS CONTESTS	
			§ 4185. DEFINITIONS	
			As used in this chapter:	
			(1) "Computer script" means a list of commands that can be executed by a	
			program, scripting engine, or similar mechanism that a fantasy sports player can use to	
			automate participation in a fantasy sports contest.	
			(2) "Confidential fantasy sports contest information" means nonpublic information	
			available to a fantasy sports operator that relates to a fantasy sports player's activity in a	
			fantasy sports contest and that, if disclosed, may give another fantasy sports player an	
Fantasy Sports – Consumer			unfair competitive advantage in a fantasy sports contest.	
Protection Provisions	3	-	(3) "Fantasy sports contest" means a virtual or simulated sporting event governed	
			by a uniform set of rules adopted by a fantasy sports operator in which:	
			(A) a fantasy sports player may earn one or more cash prizes or awards, the	
			value of which a fantasy sports operator discloses in advance of the contest;	
			(B) a fantasy sports player uses his or her knowledge and skill of sports data,	
			performance, and statistics to create and manage a fantasy sports team;	
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			(C) a fantasy sports team earns fantasy points based on the sports performance	
			statistics accrued by individual athletes or teams, or both, in real world sporting events;	
			(D) the outcome is determined by the number of fantasy points earned; and	
			(E) the outcome is not determined by the score, the point spread, the	
			performance of one or more teams, or the performance of an individual athlete in a single	

real world sporting event.

- (4) "Fantasy sports operator" means a person that offers to members of the public the opportunity to participate in a fantasy sports contest for consideration.
- (5) "Fantasy sports player" means an individual who participates in a fantasy sports contest for consideration.
- (6) "Net fantasy sports contest revenues" means the amount equal to the total of all entry fees that a fantasy sports operator collects from all fantasy sports players, less the total of all sums paid out as winnings to all fantasy sports players, multiplied by the location percentage for Vermont.
- (7) "Location percentage" means the percentage, rounded to the nearest tenth of a percent, of the total of all entry fees collected from fantasy sports players located in Vermont, divided by the total entry fees collected from all fantasy sports players in fantasy sports contests.

## § 4186. CONSUMER PROTECTION

- (a) A fantasy sports operator shall adopt commercially reasonable policies and procedures to:
- (1) prevent participation in a fantasy sports contest it offers to the public with a cash prize of \$5.00 or more by:
  - (A) the fantasy sports operator;
- (B) an employee of the fantasy sports operator or a relative of the employee who lives in the same household; or
- (C) a professional athlete or official who participates in one or more real world sporting events in the same sport as the fantasy sports contest;
- (2) prevent the disclosure of confidential fantasy sports contest information to an unauthorized person;
- (3) require that a fantasy sports player is 18 years of age or older, and verify the age of each player using one or more commercially available databases, which government or business regularly use to verify and authenticate age and identity;
- (4) limit and disclose to prospective players the number of entries a fantasy sports player may submit for each fantasy sports contest;
  - (5) limit a fantasy sports player to not more than one username or account;
- (6) prohibit the use of computer scripts that provide a player with a competitive advantage over another player;
- (7) segregate player funds from operational funds, or maintain a reserve in the form of cash, cash equivalents, payment processor receivables, payment processor reserves, an irrevocable letter of credit, a bond, or a combination thereof in an amount that equals or exceeds the amount of deposits in fantasy sports player accounts, for the benefit and protection of fantasy sports player funds held in their accounts; and
- (8) notify fantasy sports players that winnings of a certain amount may be subject to income taxation.
  - (b) A fantasy sports operator shall have the following duties:
- (1) The operator shall provide a link on its website to information and resources addressing addiction and compulsive behavior and where to seek assistance with these issues in Vermont and nationally.

- (2)(A) The operator shall enable a fantasy sports player to restrict irrevocably his or her own ability to participate in a fantasy sports contest, for a period of time the player specifies, by submitting a request to the operator through its website or by online chat with the operator's agent.
- (B) The operator shall provide to a player who self-restricts his or her participation information concerning:
  - (i) available resources addressing addiction and compulsive behavior;
- (ii) how to close an account and restrictions on opening a new account during the period of self-restriction;
  - (iii) requirements to reinstate an account at the end of the period; and
- (iv) how the operator addresses reward points and account balances during and after the period of self-restriction, and when the player closes his or her account.
- (3) The operator shall provide a player access to the following information for the previous six months:
- (A) a player's play history, including money spent, games played, previous lineups, and prizes awarded;
- (B) a player's account details, including deposit amounts, withdrawal amounts, and bonus information, including amounts remaining for a pending bonus and amounts released to the player.
- (c)(1) A fantasy sports operator shall contract with a third party to perform an annual independent audit, consistent with the standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, to ensure compliance with the requirements in this chapter.
- (2) The fantasy sports operator shall submit the results of the independent audit to the Attorney General.
- (d) A fantasy sports operator shall not extend credit to a fantasy sports player. § 4187. FAIR AND TRUTHFUL ADVERTISING
- (a) A fantasy sports operator shall not depict in an advertisement to consumers in this State:
  - (1) minors, other than professional athletes who may be minors;
  - (2) students;
  - (3) schools or colleges; or
- (4) school or college settings, provided that incidental depiction of nonfeatured minors does not violate this section.
- (b) A fantasy sports operator shall not state or imply in an advertisement to consumers in this State endorsement by:
  - (1) minors, other than professional athletes who may be minors;
  - (2) collegiate athletes;
  - (3) colleges; or
  - (4) college athletic associations.
- (c)(1) A fantasy sports operator shall include in an advertisement to consumers in this State information concerning assistance available to problem gamblers, or shall direct consumers to a reputable source of that information.
- (2) If an advertisement is of insufficient size or duration to provide the information required in subdivision (1) of this subsection, the advertisement shall refer to a website or

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			application that does prominently include such information.	
			(d) A fantasy sports operator shall only make representations concerning winnings that	
			are accurate, not misleading, and capable of substantiation at the time of the	
			representation. For purposes of this subsection, an advertisement is misleading if it makes	
			representations about average winnings without equally prominently representing the	
			average net winnings of all players.	
			§ 4188. EXEMPTION	
			The provisions of 13 V.S.A. chapter 51, relating to gambling and lotteries, shall not	
			apply to a fantasy sports contest.	
			§ 4189. REGISTRATION	
			In addition to applicable requirements under Titles 11–11C for a business organization	
			doing business in this State to register with the Secretary of State, on or before January 15	
			following each year in which a fantasy sports operator offers a fantasy sports contest to	
			consumers in this State, the operator shall file an annual registration with the Secretary of	
Fantasy Sports – Exemption;	2		State on a form adopted for that purpose and pay to the Secretary an annual registration	
<b>Registration; Enforcement</b>	3	-	fee in an amount equal to one-half of one percent of its annual net fantasy sports contest	
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,			revenue for the prior calendar year.	
			§ 4190. ENFORCEMENT	
			<del></del>	
			(a) A person that violates a provision of this chapter commits an unfair and deceptive	
			act in commerce in violation of section 2453 of this title.	
			(b) The Attorney General has the authority to adopt rules to implement the provisions	
			of this chapter and to conduct civil investigations, enter into assurances of discontinuance,	
			and bring civil actions as provided under chapter 63, subchapter 1 of this title.	
			Sec. 3a. 32 V.S.A. § chapter 221 is added to read:	
			CHAPTER 221. FANTASY SPORTS	
			§ 9001. DEFINITIONS	
			The terms used in this chapter shall have the same meaning as the terms defined in 9	
			V.S.A. chapter 116.	
			§ 9002. TAX IMPOSED	
			A fantasy sports operator shall annually pay 11 percent of its annual net fantasy sports	
			contest revenue to the Department of Taxes for deposit in the General Fund. The tax shall	
			be on annual net fantasy sports contest revenue for each calendar year. To the extent it	
Fantasy Sports – Taxation	3a-3b	-	does not conflict with the terms of this chapter, the tax imposed by this section shall be	
			implemented under the administrative and appeal provisions related to Vermont's	
			personal income tax under chapter 151 of this title.	
			§ 9003. RETURNS	
			Any person liable for the tax imposed by this chapter shall, on or before the 15th day	
			of March, return to the Commissioner under oath of a person with legal authority to bind	
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			the fantasy sports operator a statement containing its name and place of business, its net	
			fantasy sports contest revenues for the preceding year, and any other information required	
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		(a) (a) Any person subject to the provisions of this chapter who fails to pay the tax	
		imposed by this chapter by the date that payment is due or fails to submit a return as	
		required by this chapter is subject to the provisions of section 3202 of this title.	
		Sec. 3b. 32 V.S.A. § 3102(e)(19) is added to read:	
		(19) To the Secretary of State for the purpose of administering the registration fee for	
		fantasy sports operators under 9 V.S.A. § 4189.	
			Sec. 6. 9 V.S.A. § 2454a is added to read:
			§ 2454a. CONSUMER CONTRACTS; AUTOMATIC RENEWAL
			(a) A contract between a consumer and a seller or a lessor with an initial term of one
			year or longer, and that renews for a subsequent term that is longer than one month, shall
			not renew automatically unless:
			(1) the contract states clearly and conspicuously the terms of the automatic renewal
			provision in plain, unambiguous language, and in bold-face type;
			(2) in addition to accepting the contract, the consumer takes an affirmative action to
			opt in to the automatic renewal provision; and
			(3) if the consumer opts in to the automatic renewal provision, the seller or lessor provides a written or electronic notice to the consumer:
			(A) not less than 30 days, and not more than 60 days, before the earliest of:
			(i) the automatic renewal date;
			(ii) the termination date; or
			(iii) the date by which the consumer must provide notice to cancel the
			contract; and
			(B) that includes:
Consumer Contracts – Auto			(i) the date the contract will terminate and a clear statement that unless the
Renewal	-	6-7	consumer cancels the contract on or before the termination date, the contract will renew
			automatically;
			(ii) the length and any additional terms of the renewal period;
			(iii) one or more methods by which the consumer can cancel the contract; and (iv) contact information for the seller or lessor.
			(b) A person who violates a provision of subsection (a) of this section commits an
			unfair and deceptive act in commerce in violation of section 2453 of this title.
			(c) The provisions of this section do not apply to:
			(1) a contract between a consumer and a financial institution, as defined in 8 V.S.A.
			§ 11101; or
			(2) a contract for insurance, as defined in 8 V.S.A. § 3301a.
			Sec. 7. AUTOMATIC RENEWAL OF CONTRACTS; APPLICABILITY TO
			EXISTING CONTRACTS  (a) A contract between a consumer and a cellar or lesser in effect on January 1, 2018
			(a) A contract between a consumer and a seller or lessor in effect on January 1, 2018, with an initial term of one year or longer, and that renews for a subsequent term that is
			longer than one month, shall not renew automatically unless the seller or lessor sends
			written or electronic notice to the consumer with the information required 9 V.S.A. §
			2454a(a)(3)(B):
			<u>2434a(a)(3)(D).</u>

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		(1) not less than 30 days, and not more than 60 days, before the earliest of:
		(A) the automatic renewal date;
		(B) the termination date; or
		(C) the date by which the consumer must provide notice to cancel the contract;
		(2) if the contract will automatically renew on or before January 31, 2018, then as
		soon as is commercially reasonable after this section takes effect.
		(b) The Attorney General shall have the same authority to enforce this section as for 9
		V.S.A. § 2454a.
		(c) The provisions of this section do not apply to:
		(1) a contract between a consumer and a financial institution, as defined in 8 V.S.A.
		§ 11101; or
		(2) a contract for insurance, as defined in 8 V.S.A. § 3301a.
		Sec. 8. 9 V.S.A. § 4005 is amended to read:
		§ 4005. RETAINAGE
		(a) If payments under a construction contract are subject to retainage, any amounts
		which that have been retained during the performance of the contract and which that are
		due to be released to the contractor upon final completion shall be paid within 30 days
		after final acceptance of the work.
		(b) If an owner is not withholding retainage, a contractor or subcontractor may
		withhold retainage from its subcontractor in accordance with their agreement. The
		retainage shall be paid within 30 days after final acceptance of the work.
		(c) Notwithstanding any contrary agreement, a contractor shall pay to its
		subcontractors, and each subcontractor shall in turn pay to its subcontractors, within seven
Retainage; Construction	- 8	days after receipt of the retainage, the full amount due to each such subcontractor.
<b>Materials</b>	-   8	(d) If an owner, contractor, or subcontractor unreasonably withholds acceptance of the
		work or fails to pay retainage as required by this section, the owner, contractor, or subcontractor shall be subject to the interest, penalty, and attorney's fees provisions of
		sections 4002, 4003, and 4007 of this title.
		(e) Notwithstanding any provision of this section or an agreement to the contrary,
		except in the case of a contractor or subcontractor who is both a materialman who delivers
		materials and is contracted to perform work using those materials, a contractor or
		subcontractor shall not hold retainage for contracted materials that:
		(1) have been delivered by a materialman and accepted by the contractor at the site,
		or off-site; and
		(2) are covered by a manufacturer's warranty, or graded to meet industry standards,
		or both.
		Sec. 9. 9 V.S.A. § 2480a is amended to read:
<b>Credit Protection for</b>	0.10	§ 2480a. DEFINITIONS  For purposes of As used in this subabanter and subabanter 0 of this abouters
Vulnerable Persons	- 9-10	For purposes of As used in this subchapter and subchapter 9 of this chapter:  (1) "Consumer" means a natural person residing in this State other than a protected
		<u>consumer</u> .

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- (2) "Credit report" means any written, oral, or other communication of any information by a credit reporting agency bearing on a consumer's credit worthiness, credit standing, credit capacity, character, general reputation, personal characteristics, or mode of living, including an investigative credit report. The term does not include:
- (A) a report containing information solely as to transactions or experiences between the consumer and the person making the report; or
- (B) an authorization or approval of a specific extension of credit directly or indirectly by the issuer of a credit card or similar device. a consumer report, as defined in 15 U.S.C. § 1681a, that is used or collected in whole or in part for the purpose of serving as a factor in establishing a consumer's eligibility for credit for personal, family, or household purposes.
- (3) "Credit reporting agency" or "agency" means any person which, for monetary fees, dues, or on a cooperative nonprofit basis, regularly engages in whole or in part in the practice of assembling or evaluating consumer credit information or other information on consumers for the purpose of reporting to third parties on the credit rating or creditworthiness of any consumer a person who, for fees, dues, or on a cooperative basis, regularly engages in whole or in part in the practice of assembling or evaluating information concerning a consumer's credit or other information for the purpose of furnishing a credit report to another person.
- (4) "Identity theft" means the unauthorized use of another person's personal identifying information to obtain credit, goods, services, money, or property.
- (5) "Investigative credit report" means a report in which information on a consumer's character, general reputation, personal characteristics, or mode of living is obtained through personal interviews with neighbors, friends, or associates of the consumer reported on or with others with whom the consumer is acquainted or who may have knowledge concerning any such items of information. The term does not include reports of specific factual information on a consumer's credit record obtained directly from a creditor of the consumer or from a credit reporting agency when such information was obtained directly from a creditor of the consumer or from the consumer.
- (6) "Proper identification," as used in this subchapter, means that information generally deemed sufficient to identify a person has the same meaning as in 15 U.S.C. § 1681h(a)(1), and includes:
- (A) the consumer's full name, including first, last, and middle names and any suffix:
  - (B) any name the consumer previously used;
- (C) the consumer's current and recent full addresses, including street address, any apartment number, city, state, and ZIP code;
  - (D) the consumer's Social Security number; and
  - (E) the consumer's date of birth.
- (7) "Security freeze" means a notice placed in a credit report, at the request of the consumer, pursuant to section 2480h of this title.
- (8) "Consumer who is subject to a protected consumer security freeze" means a natural person:
  - (A) for whom a credit reporting agency placed a security freeze under section

	2480h of this title; and
	(B) who, on the day on which a request for the removal of the security freeze is
	submitted under section 2480h of this title, is not a protected consumer.
	(9) "File" has the same meaning as in 15 U.S.C. § 1681a.
	(10) "Incapacitated person" has the same meaning as in 14 V.S.A. § 3152.
	(11)(A) "Personal information" means personally identifiable financial
	<u>information:</u>
	(i) provided by a consumer to another person;
	(ii) resulting from any transaction with the consumer or any service
	performed for the consumer; or
	(iii) otherwise obtained by another person.
	(B) "Personal information" does not include:
	(i) publicly available information, as that term is defined by the regulations
	prescribed under 15 U.S.C. § 6804; or
	(ii) any list, description, or other grouping of consumers, and publicly
	available information pertaining to the consumers, that is derived without using any
	nonpublic personal information.
	(C) Notwithstanding subdivision (B) of this subdivision (11), "personal
	information" includes any list, description, or other grouping of consumers, and publicly
	available information pertaining to the consumers, that is derived using any nonpublic
	personal information other than publicly available information.
	(12) "Protected consumer" means a natural person who, at the time a request for a
	security freeze is made, is:
	(A) less than 18 years of age, unless emancipated under 12 V.S.A. chapter 217;
	(B) an incapacitated person; or
	(C) a protected person.
	(13) "Protected person" has the same meaning as in 14 V.S.A. § 3152.
	(14) "Record" means a compilation of information that:
	(A) identifies a protected consumer;
	(B) is created by a consumer reporting agency solely for the purpose of
	complying with this section; and
	(C) may not be created or used to consider the protected consumer's credit
	worthiness, credit standing, credit capacity, character, general reputation, personal
	characteristics, or mode of living.
	(15) "Representative" means a person who provides to a consumer reporting
	agency sufficient proof of authority to act on behalf of a protected consumer.
	(16) "Sufficient proof of authority" means documentation that shows that a person
	has authority to act on behalf of a protected consumer, including:
	(A) a court order;
	(B) a lawfully executed power of attorney; or
	(C) a written, notarized statement signed by the person that expressly describes
	the person's authority to act on behalf of the protected consumer.
	(17) "Sufficient proof of identification" means information or documentation that
	identifies a protected consumer or a representative including:

identifies a protected consumer or a representative, including:

(A) a Social Security number or a copy of a Social Security card issued by the
U.S. Social Security Administration;
(B) a certified or official copy of a birth certificate; or
(C) a copy of a government issued driver license or identification card.
Sec. 10. 9 V.S.A. chapter 63, subchapter 9 is added to read:
Subchapter 9. Credit Report Protection for Minors
<u>§ 2493. TITLE</u>
This subchapter is known as "Credit Report Protection for Minors."
§ 2494. DEFINITIONS
As used in this subchapter:
(1) "Proper authority" means:
(A) in the case that it is required of a protected consumer's representative:
(i) sufficient proof of identification of the protected consumer;
(ii) sufficient proof of identification of the protected consumer's
representative; and
(iii) sufficient proof of authority to act on behalf of the protected consumer;
and
(B) in the case that it is required of a consumer who is subject to a protected
consumer security freeze:
(i) sufficient proof of identification of the consumer who is subject to a
protected consumer security freeze; and
(ii) proof that the consumer who is subject to a protected consumer security
freeze is not a protected consumer.
(2) "Protected consumer security freeze" means:
(A) if a consumer reporting agency does not have a file that pertains to a
protected consumer, a restriction that:
(i) is placed on the protected consumer's record in accordance with this
subchapter; and
(ii) except as otherwise provided in this subchapter, prohibits the consumer
reporting agency from releasing the protected consumer's record; or
(B) if a consumer reporting agency has a file that pertains to the protected
consumer, a restriction that:
(i) is placed on the protected consumer's credit report in accordance with this
subchapter; and
(ii) except as otherwise provided in this subchapter, prohibits the consumer
reporting agency from releasing the protected consumer's credit report or any information
derived from the protected consumer's credit report.
§ 2495. APPLICABILITY
This subchapter does not apply to the use of a protected consumer's credit report or
record by:
(1) a person administering a credit file monitoring subscription service to which:
(A) the protected consumer has subscribed; or
(B) the protected consumer's representative has subscribed on the protected
consumer's behalf;

(2) a person who, upon request from the protected consumer or the protected
consumer's representative, provides the protected consumer or the protected consumer's
representative with a copy of the protected consumer's credit report;
(3) a check services or fraud prevention services company that issues:
(A) reports on incidents of fraud; or
(B) authorization for the purpose of approving or processing negotiable
instruments, electronic funds transfers, or similar payment methods;
(4) a deposit account information service company that issues reports regarding
account closures due to fraud, substantial overdrafts, automated teller machine abuse, or
similar information regarding an individual to inquiring banks or other financial
institutions for use only in reviewing an individual's request for a deposit account at the
inquiring bank or financial institution;
(5) an insurance company for the purpose of conducting the insurance company's
ordinary business;
(6) a consumer reporting agency that:
(A) only resells credit information by assembling and merging information
contained in a database of another consumer reporting agency or multiple consumer
reporting agencies; and
(B) does not maintain a permanent database of credit information from which
new credit reports are produced; or
(7) a consumer reporting agency's database or file that consists of information that:
(A) concerns and is used for:
(i) criminal record information;
(ii) fraud prevention or detection;
(iii) personal loss history information; or
(iv) employment, tenant, or individual background screening; and
(B) is not used for credit granting purposes.
§ 2496. SECURITY FREEZE FOR PROTECTED CONSUMER; TIME IN
<u>EFFECT</u>
(a) A consumer reporting agency shall place a security freeze for a protected consumer
$  \underline{\mathrm{if:}}  $
(1) the consumer reporting agency receives a request from the protected
consumer's representative for the placement of the security freeze; and
(2) the protected consumer's representative:
(A) submits the request described in subdivision (1) of this subsection (a):
(i) to the address or other point of contact provided by the consumer
reporting agency; and
(ii) in the manner specified by the consumer reporting agency;
(B) demonstrates proper authority to the consumer reporting agency; and
(C) if applicable, pays the consumer reporting agency a fee described in section
<u>2497 of this title.</u>
(b) If a consumer reporting agency does not have a file that pertains to a protected
consumer when the consumer reporting agency receives a request described in subsection
(a) of this section, the consumer reporting agency shall create a record for the protected

consumer.
(c) The credit reporting agency shall:
(1) place a security freeze no later than 30 days after the date the agency receives a
request pursuant to subsection (a) of this section; and
(2) no later than 10 business days after placing the freeze:
(A) send a written confirmation of the security freeze to the protected consumer
or the protected consumer's representative; and
(B) provide a unique personal identification number or password, other than a
Social Security number, to be used to authorize the release of the protected consumer's
credit for a specific party, parties, or period of time.
(d) If the protected consumer or protected consumer's representative wishes to allow
the protected consumer's credit report to be accessed by a specific party or parties, or for
a specific period of time while a freeze is in place, he or she shall:
(1) contact the credit reporting agency;
(2) request that the freeze be temporarily lifted;
(3) provide:
(A) proper authority;
(B) the unique personal identification number or password provided by the
credit reporting agency pursuant to subsection (c) of this section;
(C) the proper information regarding the third party, parties, or time period for
which the report shall be available to users of the credit report; and
(4) if applicable, pay the consumer reporting agency a fee described in section 2497
of this title.
(e) A credit reporting agency may develop procedures involving the use of telephone,
fax, the Internet, or other electronic media to receive and process a request from a
consumer to lift temporarily a freeze on a credit report pursuant to subsection (d) of this
section in an expedited manner.
(f) A credit reporting agency that receives a request from a consumer to lift
temporarily a freeze on a credit report pursuant to subsection (e) of this section shall
comply with the request not later than three business days after receiving the request.
(g) A credit reporting agency shall remove or lift temporarily a freeze placed on a
protected consumer's credit report only in the following cases:
(1) Upon request, pursuant to subsection (d) or (j) of this section.
(2) If the protected consumer's credit report was frozen due to a material
misrepresentation of fact by the consumer. If a credit reporting agency intends to remove
a freeze upon a protected consumer's credit report pursuant to this subdivision, the credit
reporting agency shall notify the protected consumer and his or her representative in
writing prior to removing the freeze on the consumer's credit report.
(h) If a third party requests access to a credit report on which a protected consumer
security freeze is in effect and this request is in connection with an application for credit
or any other use and neither the consumer subject to the protected consumer security
freeze nor the protected consumer's representative allows the credit report to be accessed
for that specific party or period of time, the third party may treat the application as
incomplete.

	(i) If a protected consumer's representative requests a security freeze pursuant to this
	section, the credit reporting agency shall disclose to the protected consumer's
	representative the process of placing and lifting temporarily a security freeze and the
	process for allowing access to information from the protected consumer's credit report for
	a specific party, parties, or period of time while the protected consumer security freeze is
	in place.
	(j)(1) A protected consumer security freeze shall remain in place until the consumer
	subject to the protected consumer security freeze or the protected consumer's
	representative requests that the security freeze be removed.
	(2) A credit reporting agency shall remove a protected consumer security freeze
	within three business days of receiving a proper request for removal.
	(3) The protected consumer's representative or the consumer who is subject to a
	protected consumer security freeze shall submit to the consumer reporting agency a
	proper request for removal:
	(A) at the address or other point of contact provided by the consumer reporting
	agency; and
	(B) in the manner specified by the consumer reporting agency.
	(4) When submitting a proper request for removal, a protected consumer's
	representative or a consumer who is subject to a protected consumer security freeze shall:
	(A) provide proper authority;
	(B) provide the unique personal identification number or password provided by
	the credit reporting agency pursuant to subsection (c) of this section; and
	(C) if applicable, pay the consumer reporting agency a fee described in section
	2497 of this title.
	(k) A credit reporting agency shall require proper identification of the person making a
	request to place or remove a protected consumer security freeze.
	(1) The provisions of this section, including the protected consumer security freeze, do
	not apply to the use of a consumer report by the following:
	(1) A person, or the person's subsidiary, affiliate, agent, or assignee with which the
	protected consumer has or, prior to assignment, had an account, contract, or debtor-
	creditor relationship for the purposes of reviewing the account or collecting the financial
	obligation owing for the account, contract, or debt, or extending credit to a consumer with
	a prior or existing account, contract, or debtor-creditor relationship, subject to the
	requirements of section 2480e of this title. As used in this subdivision, "reviewing the
	account" includes activities related to account maintenance, monitoring, credit line
	increases, and account upgrades and enhancements.
	(2) A subsidiary, affiliate, agent, assignee, or prospective assignee of a person to
	whom access has been granted under subsection (d) of this section for purposes of
	facilitating the extension of credit or other permissible use.
	(3) Any person acting pursuant to a court order, warrant, or subpoena.
	(4) The Office of Child Support when investigating a child support case pursuant to
	Title IV-D of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 651-669b and to 33 V.S.A. § 4102.
	(5) The Economic Services Division of the Department for Children and Families
	or the Department of Vermont Health Access or its agents or assignee acting to
	of the Department of Vermont Health Access of its agents of assignee acting to

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		investigate welfare or Medicaid fraud.
		(6) The Department of Taxes, municipal taxing authorities, or the Department of
		Motor Vehicles or any of their agents or assignees, acting to investigate or collect
		delinquent taxes or assessments, including interest and penalties, unpaid court orders, or
		to fulfill any of their other statutory or charter responsibilities.
		(7) A person's use of credit information for the purposes of prescreening as
		provided by the federal Fair Credit Reporting Act.
		(8) Any person for the sole purpose of providing a credit file monitoring
		subscription service to which the consumer has subscribed.
		(9) A credit reporting agency for the sole purpose of providing a consumer with a
		copy of his or her credit report upon the consumer's request.
		(10) Any property and casualty insurance company for use in setting or adjusting a
		rate or underwriting for property and casualty insurance purposes.
		§ 2497. FEES
		(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, a consumer reporting agency
		may not charge a fee for any service performed under this subchapter.
		(b) A consumer reporting agency may charge a reasonable fee, which does not exceed
		\$5.00, for each placement, suspension, or removal of a protected consumer security
		<u> </u>
		freeze, unless:
		(1) the protected consumer's representative:
		(A) has obtained a police report that states the protected consumer is the alleged
		victim of identity fraud; and
		(B) provides a copy of the report to the consumer reporting agency; or
		(2)(A) the protected consumer is less than 16 years of age at the time the request is
		submitted to the consumer reporting agency; and
		(B) the consumer reporting agency has a file that pertains to the protected
		consumer.
		Sec. 11. 8 V.S.A. § 4727 is added to read:
		§ 4727. PERSONAL INSURANCE; USE OF CREDIT INFORMATION
		(a) Purpose. The purpose of this section is to regulate the use of credit information for
		personal insurance, so that consumers are afforded certain protections with respect to the
		use of such information.
	-	(b) Scope. This section applies to personal insurance and not to commercial
		insurance. As used in this section, "personal insurance" means private passenger
Use of Credit Information for Personal Insurance		automobile, homeowners, motorcycle, mobile home owners, and noncommercial dwelling
		fire insurance policies. Such policies must be underwritten for personal, family, or
		household use. No other types of insurance shall be included as personal insurance for the
		purpose of this section.
		(c) Definitions. As used in this section:
		(1) "Adverse action" means a denial or cancellation of, an increase in any charge
		for, or a reduction or other adverse or unfavorable change in the terms of coverage or
		amount of, any insurance, existing or applied for, in connection with the underwriting of
		personal insurance.
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- (2) "Affiliate" means any company that controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with another company.
- (3) "Applicant" means an individual who has applied to be covered by a personal insurance policy with an insurer.
- (4) "Consumer" means an insured whose credit information is used or whose insurance score is calculated in the underwriting or rating of a personal insurance policy or an applicant for such a policy.
- (5) "Consumer reporting agency" means any person which, for monetary fees, dues, or on a cooperative nonprofit basis, regularly engages in whole or in part in the practice of assembling or evaluating consumer credit information or other information on consumers for the purpose of furnishing consumer reports to third parties.
- (6) "Credit information" means any credit-related information derived from a credit eport, found on a credit report itself, or provided on an application for personal assurance. Information that is not credit-related shall not be considered "credit information," regardless of whether it is contained in a credit report or in an application, it is used to calculate an insurance score.
- (7) "Credit report" means any written, oral, or other communication of information by a consumer reporting agency bearing on a consumer's credit worthiness, credit standing, or credit capacity which is used or expected to be used or collected in whole or in part for the purpose of serving as a factor to determine personal insurance premiums, eligibility for coverage, or tier placement.
- (8) "Insurance score" means a number or rating that is derived from an algorithm, computer application, model, or other process that is based in whole or in part on credit information for the purposes of predicting the future insurance loss exposure of an individual applicant or insured.
- (d) Use of credit information. An insurer authorized to do business in this State that uses credit information to underwrite or rate risks, shall not:
- (1) Use an insurance score that is calculated using income, gender, address, zip code, ethnic group, religion, marital status, or nationality of the consumer as a factor.
- (2) Deny, cancel or nonrenew a policy of personal insurance solely on the basis of credit information, without consideration of any other applicable underwriting factor independent of credit information and not expressly prohibited by subdivision (1) of this subsection.
- (3) Base an insured's renewal rates for personal insurance solely upon credit information, without consideration of any other applicable factor independent of credit information.
- (4) Take an adverse action against a consumer solely because he or she does not have a credit card account, without consideration of any other applicable factor independent of credit information.
- (5) Consider an absence of credit information or an inability to calculate an insurance score in underwriting or rating personal insurance, unless the insurer does one of the following:
- (A) Treats the consumer as otherwise approved by the Commissioner, if the insurer presents information that such an absence or inability relates to the risk for the

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insurer.

- (B) Treats the consumer as if the applicant or insured had neutral credit nformation, as defined by the insurer.
- (C) Excludes the use of credit information as a factor and uses only other inderwriting criteria.
- (6) Take an adverse action against a consumer based on credit information, unless n insurer obtains and uses a credit report issued or an insurance score calculated within 0 days from the date the policy is first written or renewal is issued.
- (7) Use credit information unless not later than every 36 months following the last time that the insurer obtained current credit information for the insured, the insurer recalculates the insurance score or obtains an updated credit report. Regardless of the requirements of this subsection:
- (A) At annual renewal, upon the request of a consumer or the consumer's agent, the insurer shall reunderwrite and rerate the policy based upon a current credit report or insurance score. An insurer need not recalculate the insurance score or obtain the updated credit report of a consumer more frequently than once in a 12-month period.
- (B) The insurer shall have the discretion to obtain current credit information upon any renewal before the 36 months, if consistent with its underwriting guidelines.
- (C) No insurer need obtain current credit information for an insured, despite the requirements of subdivision (A) of this subdivision (7), if one of the following applies:
- (i) The insurer is treating the consumer as otherwise approved by the Commissioner.
- (ii) The insured is in the most favorably priced tier of the insurer, within a group of affiliated insurers. However, the insurer shall have the discretion to order such report, if consistent with its underwriting guidelines.
- (iii) Credit was not used for underwriting or rating such insured when the solicy was initially written. However, the insurer shall have the discretion to use credit or underwriting or rating such insured upon renewal, if consistent with its underwriting suidelines.
- (iv) The insurer reevaluates the insured beginning not later than 36 months after inception and thereafter based upon other underwriting or rating factors, excluding credit information.
- (8) Use the following as a negative factor in any insurance scoring methodology or in reviewing credit information for the purpose of underwriting or rating a policy of personal insurance:
- (A) credit inquiries not initiated by the consumer or inquiries requested by the consumer for his or her own credit information;
- (B) inquiries relating to insurance coverage, if so identified on a consumer's credit report;
- (C) collection accounts with a medical industry code, if so identified on the consumer's credit report;
- (D) multiple lender inquiries, if coded by the consumer reporting agency on the consumer's credit report as being from the home mortgage industry and made within 30 days of one another, unless only one inquiry is considered; and

	(E) multiple lend
	consumer's credit report a
	30 days of one another, un
	(e)(1) Extraordinary lit
	contrary, an insurer that us
	for insurance coverage or
	rating classifications, com
	consumer who has experie
	by any of the following ev
	(A) a catastrophi
	(B) a serious illn
	family member;
	(C) the death of
	(D) divorce or in
	payments;
	(E) identity theft
	(F) the temporar
	results from involuntary te
	(G) military depl
	(H) other events.
	(2) If an applicant of
	subdivision (1) of this sub
	mandated to:
	(A) require the c
	verifiable documentation of
	(B) require the c
	meaningful impact on the
	(C) require such
	application for insurance of
	(D) grant an exception in writing; or
	(E) grant an exce
	(3) An insurer is no
	underwriting, rating, or rat
	Nothing in this section sha
	cause of action that does n
	(4) The insurer shal
	available and information
	(5) Within 30 days
	described in subdivision (
	the outcome of the request

- nder inquiries, if coded by the consumer reporting agency on the as being from the automobile lending industry and made within unless only one inquiry is considered.
- life circumstances. Notwithstanding any other law or rule to the uses credit information shall, on written request from an applicant or an insured, provide reasonable exceptions to the insurer's rates, mpany or tier placement, or underwriting rules or guidelines for a rienced and whose credit information has been directly influenced
  - phic event, as declared by the federal or State government;
- lness or injury, or a serious illness or injury to an immediate
  - of a spouse, child, or parent;
- involuntary interruption of legally owed alimony or support
  - eft;
- ary loss of employment for a period of three months or more, if it termination;
  - eployment overseas; or
  - ts, as determined by the insurer.
- or insured submits a request for an exception as set forth in absection, an insurer may, in its sole discretion, but is not
- consumer to provide reasonable written and independently n of the event;
- consumer to demonstrate that the event had direct and e consumer's credit information;
- ch request be made no more than 60 days from the date of the or the policy renewal;
- aception despite the consumer not providing the initial request for
- ception where the consumer asks for consideration of repeated considered this event previously.
- not out of compliance with any law or rule relating to rate filing as a result of granting an exception under this section. hall be construed to provide a consumer or other insured with a not exist in the absence of this section.
- all provide notice to consumers that reasonable exceptions are on about how the consumer may inquire further.
- s of the insurer's receipt of sufficient documentation of an event (1) of this subsection, the insurer shall inform the consumer of the outcome of the request for a reasonable exception. Such communication shall be in writing or provided to an applicant in the same medium as the request.
  - (f) Dispute resolution and error correction. If it is determined through the dispute

	resolution process set forth in the federal Fair Credit Reporting Act, 15 U.S.C.
	§ 1681i(a)(5), that the credit information of a current insured was incorrect or incomplete
	and if the insurer receives notice of such determination from either the consumer
	reporting agency or from the insured, the insurer shall reunderwrite and rerate the
	consumer within 30 days of receiving the notice. After reunderwriting or rerating the
	insured, the insurer shall make any adjustments necessary, consistent with its
	underwriting and rating guidelines. If an insurer determines that the insured has overpaid
	premium, the insurer shall refund to the insured the amount of overpayment calculated
	back to the shorter of either the last 12 months of coverage or the actual policy period.
	(g)(1) Initial notification. If an insurer writing personal insurance uses credit
	information in underwriting or rating a consumer, the insurer or its agent shall disclose,
	either on the insurance application or at the time the insurance application is taken, that it
	may obtain credit information in connection with such application. Such disclosure shall
	be either written or provided to an applicant in the same medium as the application for
	insurance. The insurer need not provide the disclosure statement required under this
	section to any insured on a renewal policy if such consumer has previously been provided
	a disclosure statement.
	(2) Use of the following example disclosure statement constitutes compliance with
	this section: "In connection with this application for insurance, we may review your
	credit report or obtain or use a credit-based insurance score based on the information
	contained in that credit report. We may use a third party in connection with the
	development of your insurance score."
	(h) Adverse action notification. If an insurer takes an adverse action based upon credit
	information, the insurer must meet the notice requirements of this subsection. Such
	insurer shall:
	(1) Provide notification to the consumer that an adverse action has been taken, in
	accordance with the requirements of the federal Fair Credit Reporting Act, 15 U.S.C.
	<u>§ 1681m(a).</u>
	(2) Provide notification to the consumer explaining the reason for the adverse
	action. The reasons must be provided in sufficiently clear and specific language so that a
	person can identify the basis for the insurer's decision to take an adverse action. Such
	notification shall include a description of up to four factors that were the primary
	influences of the adverse action. The use of generalized terms such as "poor credit
	history," "poor credit rating," or "poor insurance score" does not meet the explanation
	requirements of this subsection. Standardized credit explanations provided by consumer
	reporting agencies or other third party vendors are deemed to comply with this section.
	(i) Filing. Insurers that use insurance scores to underwrite and rate risks must file their
	scoring models, or other scoring processes, with the Department of Financial Regulation.
	A third party may file scoring models on behalf of insurers. A filing that includes
	insurance scoring may include loss experience justifying the use of credit information.
	Any filing relating to credit information is considered trade secret under and not subject to
	disclosure under Vermont's Public Records Act.
	(j) Indemnification. An insurer shall indemnify, defend, and hold agents harmless
	from and against all liability, fees, and costs arising out of or relating to the actions,

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		errors, or omissions of a producer who obtains or uses credit information or insurance
		scores, or both, for an insurer, provided the producer follows the instructions of or
		procedures established by the insurer and complies with any applicable law or regulation.
		Nothing in this section shall be construed to provide a consumer or other insured with a
		cause of action that does not exist in the absence of this section.
		(k) Sale of policy term information by consumer reporting agency. A consumer
		reporting agency shall not provide or sell data or lists that include any information that in
		whole or in part was submitted in conjunction with an insurance inquiry about a
		consumer's credit information or a request for a credit report or insurance score. Such
		information includes the expiration dates of an insurance policy or any other information
		that may identify time periods during which a consumer's insurance may expire and the
		terms and conditions of the consumer's insurance coverage. The restrictions provided in
		this subsection do not apply to data or lists the consumer reporting agency supplies to the
		insurance producer from whom information was received, the insurer on whose behalf
		such producer acted, or such insurer's affiliates or holding companies. Nothing in this
		section shall be construed to restrict any insurer from being able to obtain a claims history
		report or a motor vehicle report.
		Sec. 12. 12 V.S.A. § 511 is amended to read:
		§ 511. CIVIL ACTION
		(a) A civil action, except one brought upon the judgment or decree of a court of record
		of the United States or of this or some other state, and except as otherwise provided, shall
Credit Card Debt Collection -	- 12	be commenced within six years after the cause of action accrues and not thereafter.
<b>Statute of Limitations</b>		(b) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, a civil action to collect a debt
		arising from default on a credit card account shall be commenced within three years after
		the cause of action accrues and not thereafter.
		the eduse of detroit decrees and not therearer.
		Sec. 13. 12 V.S.A. § 3170 is amended to read:
		§ 3170. EXEMPTIONS; ISSUANCE OF ORDER
Credit Card Debt Collection – Income Exempt from Trustee Process Against Earnings; State Minimum Wage		(a) No order approving the issuance of trustee process against earnings shall be entered
		against a judgment debtor who was, within the two-month period preceding the hearing
		provided in section 3169 of this title, a recipient of assistance from the Vermont
		Department for Children and Families or the Department of Vermont Health Access. The
		judgment debtor must establish this exemption at the time of hearing.
		(b) The earnings of a judgment debtor shall be exempt as follows:
	- 13	(1) seventy-five percent of the debtor's weekly disposable earnings, or 30 times the
		federal minimum hourly wage, whichever is greater; or
		(2) if the judgment debt arose from a consumer credit transaction, as that term is
		defined by 15 U.S.C. section 1602 and implementing regulations of the Federal Reserve
		Board, other than a default on a credit card account, 85 percent of the debtor's weekly
		disposable earnings, or 40 times the federal minimum hourly wage, whichever is greater;
		Of  (2) if the independent debt areas from a default on a good consent of
		(3) if the judgment debt arose from a default on a credit card account, 85 percent of
		the debtor's weekly disposable earnings, or 40 times the applicable minimum hourly

				wage, whichever is greater; or
				(4) if the court finds that the weekly expenses reasonably incurred by the debtor for his or her maintenance and that of dependents exceed the amounts exempted by subdivisions (1), and (2), and (3) of this subsection, such greater amount of earnings as
				the court shall order.  ***
Credit Card Debt Collection – Legal Rate of Interest on Judgment	-	14-15		Sec. 14. 9 V.S.A. § 41a is amended to read: § 41A. LEGAL RATES  ***  (e)(1) Subject to subdivision (2) of this subsection, interest on a judgment against a debtor in default on a credit card account shall accrue at the rate of 12 percent per annum.  (2) A court may suspend the accrual of interest on a judgment against a debtor in default on a credit card account if the court finds, through a financial disclosure, that the debtor has an inability to pay.  Sec. 15. 12 V.S.A. § 2903(c) is amended to read: § 2903. DURATION AND EFFECTIVENESS  ***  (c) Interest Unless a court suspends the accrual of interest pursuant to 9 V.S.A. § 41a(e), interest on a judgment lien shall accrue at the rate of 12 percent per annum.
Effective Dates	4	16	Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATES  This act shall take effect on July 1, 2017, except Sec. 3a, which shall take effect on January 1, 2018 and apply to calendar year 2018 and after.	Sec. 16. EFFECTIVE DATES  (a) This section shall take effect on passage.  (b) Sec. 11 (credit information for personal insurance) shall take effect on passage and apply to personal insurance policies either written to be effective or renewed on or after nine months from the effective date of the act.  (c) Secs. 2–3 (fantasy sports proposals) shall take effect on passage.  (d) Secs. 6–7 (automatic renewal provisions) and Secs. 9–10 (credit protection for vulnerable persons) shall take effect on January 1, 2018.  (e) The following sections shall take effect on July 1, 2017:  (1) Sec. 1 (home loan escrow accounts).  (2) Sec. 8 (retainage for construction materials).  (3) Secs. 12–15 (credit card debt collection).