

House resolution disapproving Executive Order 07-17

Offered by: Committee on General, Housing, and Military Affairs

Whereas, on January 15, 2017, the Governor signed Executive Order 07-17 providing for the creation of “the Department of Liquor and Lottery by merging the Department of Liquor Control with the State Lottery Commission,” and

Whereas, according to the Executive Order, effective April 17, 2017, the Department of Liquor and Lottery shall assume all duties, responsibilities, and authority of the Department of Liquor Control and the State Lottery Commission, and

Whereas, the Committee on General, Housing and Military Affairs has taken testimony and public comment concerning this Executive Order, and

Whereas, the House of Representatives agrees with the Governor that it “is desirable to reorganize the departments and divisions of government by better coordinating certain activities and to improve the coordination, effectiveness and value of services to the public,” and

Whereas, the House of Representatives supports improved and more efficient delivery of services to the public, elimination of redundancy, improved accountability, more efficient use of specialized expertise and facilities, more effective sharing of best practices, the realization of cost savings, and the enhancement of the Department of Liquor Control and the

Lottery Commission's ability to fulfill their respective missions in a cost-effective manner, and

Whereas, the House of Representatives also wishes to ensure that any merger achieves these goals without leading to unintended consequences, and

Whereas, the best mechanism to pursue a merger of the functions and responsibilities of the Department of Liquor Control and the State Lottery Commission is to use the legislative process, with the resulting opportunity for enhanced research, analysis, and public participation, and

Whereas, the House of Representatives is fully committed to working cooperatively with the Administration to produce a plan and legislation that will achieve our shared goals and that will increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the Department of Liquor Control and State Lottery Commission, now therefore be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives:

That this legislative body, pursuant to 3 V.S.A. § 2002, disapproves of Executive Order 07-17, and be it further

Resolved: That the House of Representatives intends to bring forward legislation to create a working group to develop a plan and draft legislation necessary to merge the Department of Liquor Control with the State Lottery Commission that can be fully considered during the second year of this biennium, and be it further

Resolved: That the Clerk of the House be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Governor Philip B. Scott.

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