

1 TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

2 The Committee on Corrections and Institutions to which was referred
3 House Bill No. 476 entitled “An act relating to treatment and programming at
4 correctional facilities” respectfully reports that it has considered the same and
5 recommends that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting
6 clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

7 Sec. 1. **SUBSTANCE ABUSE RECOVERY SERVICES** AT
8 CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES; STUDY

9 (a) The Commissioner of Corrections, in consultation with the
10 Commissioner of Mental Health, shall study approaches to substance abuse
11 recovery services in State and out-of-state correctional facilities for inmates
12 who are in recovery for substance abuse in order to provide a holistic approach
13 to their recovery. The study shall include:

14 (1) a review of recovery regimens for inmates whether incarcerated
15 within Vermont or out-of-state, including:

16 (A) screening by a medical and mental health professional upon entry
17 into a correctional facility;

18 (B) continuing preexisting prescriptions and medication treatments
19 during an inmate’s incarceration;

20 (C) providing supportive and treatment-enhancing activities
21 throughout the inmate’s incarceration, including recovery coaching, certified

1 drug and alcohol counselors, and **technology-enabled substance abuse recovery**
2 **programs**; and

3 (D) developing relationships with community providers once an
4 **inmate** approaches release;

5 (2) ways to link **recovery programs** with increased secondary and
6 postsecondary educational opportunities and job skills and training
7 opportunities; and

8 (3) opportunities to develop and use self-help peer groups to assist in
9 **recovery and** in maintaining abstinence.

10 (b) On or before December 1, 2017, the **Commissioner** of Corrections shall
11 submit a report to the House Committees on Corrections and Institutions, on
12 Human Services, **and on Judiciary**, and the Senate Committees on Institutions,
13 on Health and Welfare, **and on Judiciary**, on the findings of the study described
14 in subsection (a) of this section. The report shall include recommendations for
15 legislative action to implement new **recovery services** based on the findings of
16 the study.

17 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

18 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.

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3 (Committee vote: _____)

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Representative _____

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FOR THE COMMITTEE