

Sent: Thursday, February 15, 2018 11:35:55 AM

To: David Ainsworth; Janet Ancel; Robert Bancroft; John Bartholomew; Fred Baser; Lynn Batchelor; Scott Beck; Paul Belaski; Steve Beyor; Clem Bissonnette; Thomas Bock; Bill Botzow; Patrick Brennan; Tim Briglin; Cynthia Browning; Jessica Brumsted; Susan Buckholz; Tom Burditt; Mollie Burke; William Canfield; Stephen Carr; Robin Chesnut-Tangerman; Annmarie Christensen; Kevin Christie; Brian Cina; Selene Colburn; Jim Condon; Peter Conlon; Daniel Connor; Chip Conquest; Sarah CopelandHanzas; Timothy Corcoran; Larry Cupoli; Maureen Dakin; David Deen; Dennis Devereux; Eileen Dickinson; Anne Donahue; Johannah Donovan; Betsy Dunn; Alice Emmons; Peter Fagan; Feltus of Lyndonville; Rachael Fields; Robert Forguites; Robert Frenier; Douglas Gage; Marianna Gamache; John Gannon; Marcia Gardner; Dylan Giambatista; Diana Gonzalez; Maxine Grad; Rodney Graham; Sandy Haas; James Harrison; Head of South Burlington; Mike Hebert; Robert Helm; Mark Higley; Matthew Hill; Jay Hooper; Mary Hooper; Lori Houghton; Mary Howard; Kimberly Jessup; Ben Jickling; Mitzi Johnson; Ben Joseph; Bernie Juskiewicz; Brian Keefe; Kathleen Keenan; Charlie Kimbell; Warren Kitzmiller; Jill Krowinski; Rob LaClair; Martin LaLonde; Diane Lanpher; Richard Lawrence; Paul Lefebvre; Patti Lewis; William Lippert; Emily Long; Gabrielle Lucke; Terence Macaig; Michael Marcotte; Marcia Martel; Jim Masland; Christopher Mattos; Curt McCormack; Patricia McCoy; McCullough of Williston; Francis McFaun; Alice Miller; Kiah Morris; Mary Morrissey; Mike Mrowicki; Barbara Murphy; Linda Myers; Gary Nolan; Terry Norris; Daniel Noyes; Carol Ode; Jean O'Sullivan; Kelly Pajala; Corey Parent; Carolyn Partridge; Albert Pearce; Paul Poirier; Dave Potter; Ann Pugh; Connie Quimby; Barbara Rachelson; Ed Read; Carl Rosenquist; Brian Savage; Robin Scheu; Heidi Scheuermann; David Sharpe; Butch Shaw; Amy Sheldon; Laura Sibia; Brian Smith; Harvey Smith; Trevor Squirrel; Tom Stevens; Vicki Strong; Valerie Stuart; Mary Sullivan; Linda Joy Sullivan; Curt Taylor; Thomas Terenzini; George Till; Tristan Toleno; Kitty Toll; Maida Townsend; Trieber of Bellows Falls; Chip Troiano; Donald Turner, Jr.; Warren Van Wyck; Gary Viens; Tommy Walz; Kate Webb; Cindy Weed; Janssen Willhoit; Theresa Wood; Kurt Wright; David Yacovone; Michael Yantachka; Sam Young

Subject: Protect Medical and Personal Privacy and Vote NO on H. 237!

To the distinguished members of the Vermont House:

The ACLU of Vermont urges you to vote no on H. 237, legislation that would permit the use of roadside saliva testing. These tests are unscientific, do not demonstrate impairment, and create serious constitutional and privacy issues.

* The bill punishes people, including medical marijuana patients, for having any detectable amount of a legal substance in their body, regardless of actual impairment.

* Saliva testing devices show the presence of many legal medications. With these roadside tests, the government will be creating records of the prescriptions people are taking.

* The National Highway Traffic Administration states that oral fluid screening devices used for roadside saliva tests can be inaccurate and unreliable. We should not justify arrests based on tests with questionable scientific value.

* Warrantless saliva tests raise serious constitutional concerns about a person's right to personal dignity and privacy.

* We know that we already have massive racial disparities in traffic stops and searches in Vermont. It is not unreasonable to think these disparities would again be present with regard to stops and searches for suspected marijuana impairment.

The ACLU supports efforts to ensure road safety and recognizes the state has a legitimate interest in addressing impaired driving, and fortunately, we already have a test of impairment – the standard field sobriety test. It has been used for decades to test for impaired driving and is an appropriate screening tool for individuals suspected of being impaired. Best of all, it does not require invasive warrantless searches of Vermonters' saliva.

This bill does nothing to advance road safety while creating multiple civil liberties concerns. For that reason, the ACLU urges you to vote no on H. 237.

Sincerely,

Chloé White

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Pronouns: she/her

Policy Director

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