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H.31

Introduced by Representatives Grad of Moretown, Pugh of South Burlington,
Christie of Hartford, LaLonde of South Burlington, and White
of Hartford

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Community justice centers; Windsor County Domestic Violence
Restorative Justice Pilot Program

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to establish the
Windsor County Domestic Violence Restorative Justice Pilot Program. The
Program would permit restorative justice services to be provided on a pilot
basis in Windsor County to victims and offenders in domestic violence cases
as a condition of probation, furlough, parole, or supervised community
sentence.

An act relating to establishing the Windsor County Domestic Violence
Restorative Justice Pilot Program

1 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

2 Sec. 1. 24 V.S.A. § 1967a is added to read:

3 § 1967a. WINDSOR COUNTY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RESTORATIVE
4 JUSTICE PILOT PROGRAM

5 (a) There is established the Windsor County Domestic Violence
6 Restorative Justice Pilot Program. Notwithstanding section 1967 of this title, a
7 community justice center in Windsor County that participates in the Program
8 may provide restorative justice services to victims and offenders in domestic
9 violence cases as a condition of probation, furlough, parole, or supervised
10 community sentence.

11 (b) Restorative justice services provided in the Program pursuant to
12 subsection (a) of this section shall be:

13 (1) administered consistent with the Circle of Peace model; and

14 (2) administered as part of a Circle of Peace Program approved by the
15 Windsor County State's Attorney.

16 (c)(1) A community justice center providing restorative justice services in
17 the Program pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall report to the House
18 and Senate Committees on Judiciary and the Governor's Council on Domestic
19 Violence on or before July 1, 2020, and annually thereafter. The report shall
20 include:

21 (A) the number of offenders and victims served;

1 (B) the training activities of employees and volunteers who
2 participate in the Circles of Peace; and

3 (C) the re-arrest rate of offenders who have participated in the Circles
4 of Peace.

5 (2) For purposes of calculating re-arrest rates only, the Departments of
6 Public Safety and Corrections shall provide assistance to a community justice
7 center filing a report pursuant to this subsection.

8 (d) This section shall be repealed on July 1, 2021.

9 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

10 This act shall take effect on passage.