

1 S.244

2 Introduced by Senator Perchlik

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: State Employees; Judiciary; State buildings; security

6 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to establish the  
7 Vermont State Building Security Board and directs the Board to report back to  
8 the General Assembly with an assessment on the security of State employees  
9 in State buildings, facilities, and courthouses, and whether to create a State  
10 Building Safety and Security Police Department.

11 An act relating to the creation of the Vermont State Building Security Board

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

13 Sec. 1. 29 V.S.A. § 173 is added to read:

14 § 173. VERMONT STATE BUILDING SECURITY BOARD

15 (a) The Vermont State Building Security Board is established to oversee  
16 the safety and security of worksites for Vermont State employees and the  
17 employees of the Judiciary.

18 (b)(1) The Board shall consist of the following seven members:

19 (A) two members appointed by the Governor;

20 (B) the Vermont State Court Administrator or designee;

1           (C) one member appointed by the Attorney General; and

2           (D) three members appointed by the President of the Vermont State  
3 Employees' Association.

4           (2) The Board shall annually, from among its membership, elect a  
5 member to serve as Board chair and a member to serve as Board vice chair.

6           (3) The members of the Board shall serve terms three years and may  
7 serve not more than three consecutive terms. All appointments shall be made  
8 between January 1 and February 1 each odd-numbered year, except to fill a  
9 vacancy. Members shall serve until their successors are appointed.

10           (4) Membership on the Board does not constitute the holding of an  
11 office for any purpose, and members of the Board shall not be required to take  
12 and file oaths of office before serving on the Board. A member of the Board  
13 shall not be disqualified from holding any public office or employment and  
14 shall not forfeit any office or employment by reason of his or her appointment  
15 to the Board, notwithstanding any statute, ordinance, or charter to the contrary.

16           (c) The Board may hold up to six meetings a year. Meetings of the Board  
17 may be held at any time or place within Vermont upon call of the Chair or a  
18 majority of the members, after reasonable notice to the other members, and  
19 shall be held at such times and places as in the judgment of the Board will best  
20 serve the convenience of all parties in interest. The Board shall adopt rules and  
21 procedures with respect to the conduct of its meetings and other affairs.

1       (d) Members who are not State employees or not otherwise compensated in  
2       the course of their employment shall receive per diem compensation and  
3       expense reimbursement for meetings in accordance with the provisions of  
4       32 V.S.A. § 1010. Members who receive per diem shall receive compensation  
5       for not more than 12 meetings per year.

6       (e) The Commissioner of Buildings and General Services, the Court  
7       Administrator, and the Sergeant at Arms shall coordinate with the Board on the  
8       security plans developed pursuant to section 171 of this title.

9       Sec. 2. STATE BUILDING SAFETY AND SECURITY POLICE

10       DEPARTMENT; REPORT

11       On or before March 1, 2021, the Vermont State Building Security Board,  
12       established in 29 V.S.A. § 1173, in consultation with the Commissioner of  
13       Buildings and General Services, the Court Administrator, and the Sergeant at  
14       Arms, shall submit to the House and Senate Committees on Government  
15       Operations a report, which shall include the following:

16               (1) an assessment of the security of employees in State buildings,  
17       facilities, and courthouses; and

18               (2) a recommendation on whether to create a State Building Safety and  
19       Security Police Department with the responsibility for providing security and  
20       law enforcement services for State buildings, facilities, and courthouses. If the  
21       Board recommends creating the State Building Safety and Security Police

1 Department, the recommendation shall include a proposal for the structure of  
2 the State Building Safety and Security Police Department and how this  
3 Department would coordinate or supplant the safety and security  
4 responsibilities of the Department of Buildings and General Services, the  
5 Supreme Court, and the Capitol Police Department.

6 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

7 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.