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S.275

Introduced by Senators Hardy, Balint, Bray, Clarkson, Hooker, Ingram,  
McCormack, Pearson, Perchlik and Pollina

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Judiciary; Family Court

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require that judges assigned to the Family Division receive at least 30 hours of preliminary training on matters relating to child development and psychology, child abuse and neglect, developmental trauma in children, and domestic violence. The bill also requires an additional six hours of related education on an annual basis.

An act relating to training for judges assigned to the Family Division of Superior Court

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

Sec. 1. 4 V.S.A. § 460 is added to read:

§ 460. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

(a) Prior to an assignment to preside in the Family Division of the Superior Court, a judge shall receive a minimum of 30 hours of education on topics

1 related to child development and psychology, child abuse and neglect,  
2 developmental trauma in children, and domestic violence.

3 (b) After completing the requirements set forth in subsection (a) of this  
4 section, a judge assigned to the Family Division of the Superior Court shall  
5 complete six hours of continuing education on such topics on an annual basis.

6 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

7 This act shall take effect on January 1, 2021.