

Senate Calendar

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29, 2020

SENATE CONVENES AT: 1:00 P.M.

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ACTION CALENDAR

UNFINISHED BUSINESS OF TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2020

GOVERNOR'S VETOES

S. 37.

An act relating to medical monitoring.

Pending question (to be voted by call of the roll): Shall the bill pass, notwithstanding the Governor's refusal to approve the bill? (Two-thirds of the members present required to override the Governor's veto.)

(For text of veto message, see Senate Calendar for January 7, 2020, page 1.)

S. 169.

An act relating to firearms procedures.

Pending question (to be voted by call of the roll): Shall the bill pass, notwithstanding the Governor's refusal to approve the bill? (Two-thirds of the members present required to override the Governor's veto.)

(For text of veto message, see Senate Calendar for January 7, 2020, page 9.)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS OF TUESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2020

Second Reading

Favorable with Recommendation of Amendment

S. 255.

An act relating to captive insurance.

Reported favorably with recommendation of amendment by Senator Cummings for the Committee on Finance.

The Committee recommends that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

* * * Agency Captives * * *

Sec. 1. 8 V.S.A. § 6002 is amended to read:

§ 6002. LICENSING; AUTHORITY

(a) Any captive insurance company, when permitted by its articles of association, charter, or other organizational document, may apply to the Commissioner for a license to do any and all insurance comprised in

subdivisions 3301(a)(1), (2), (3)(A)–(C), (E)–(Q), and (4)–(9) of this title and may grant annuity contracts as defined in section 3717 of this title; provided, however, that:

(1) No pure captive insurance company may insure any risks other than those of its parent and affiliated companies or controlled unaffiliated business.

(2) No agency captive insurance company may do any insurance business in this State unless:

(A) an insurance agency or brokerage that owns or controls the agency captive insurance company remains in regulatory good standing in all states in which it is licensed;

(B) it insures only the risks of the commercial policies that are placed by or through an insurance agency or brokerage that owns or directly or indirectly controls the agency captive insurance company and, if required by the Commissioner in his or her discretion, it provides the Commissioner the form of such commercial policies;

(C) it discloses to the original policyholder or policyholders, in a form or manner approved by the Commissioner, ~~any limitations, rights, and obligations held by that~~ the agency captive insurance company as a result of its affiliation with an insurance agency or brokerage may enter into a reinsurance or other risk-sharing agreement with the agency or brokerage; and

* * *

* * * Dormant Captives * * *

Sec. 2. 8 V.S.A. § 6024 is amended to read:

§ 6024. DORMANT CAPTIVE INSURANCE COMPANIES

(a) As used in this section, unless the context requires otherwise, “dormant captive insurance company” means a captive insurance company that has:

(1) ceased transacting the business of insurance, including the issuance of insurance policies; and

(2) no remaining liabilities associated with insurance business transactions or insurance policies issued prior to the filing of its application for a certificate of dormancy under this section.

(b) A captive insurance company domiciled in Vermont that meets the criteria of subsection (a) of this section may apply to the Commissioner for a certificate of dormancy. The certificate of dormancy shall be subject to renewal every five years and shall be forfeited if not renewed within such time.

(c) A dormant captive insurance company that has been issued a certificate of dormancy shall:

(1) possess and thereafter maintain unimpaired, paid-in capital and surplus of not less than \$25,000.00; provided, however, that if the dormant captive insurance company had never capitalized, it shall not be required to add capital upon entering dormancy;

* * *

* * * Sponsored Captives; Capitalization * * *

Sec. 3. 8 V.S.A. § 6004 is amended to read:

§ 6004. MINIMUM CAPITAL AND SURPLUS; LETTER OF CREDIT

(a) No captive insurance company shall be issued a license unless it shall possess and thereafter maintain unimpaired paid-in capital and surplus of:

* * *

(6) in the case of a sponsored captive insurance company, not less than ~~\$250,000.00~~ \$100,000.00.

* * *

* * * Protected Cells; Unaffiliated Businesses * * *

Sec. 4. 8 V.S.A. § 6034 is amended to read:

§ 6034. PROTECTED CELLS

A sponsored captive insurance company formed or licensed under the provisions of this chapter may establish and maintain one or more protected cells to insure risks of one or more participants or, subject to Commissioner approval, other parties unaffiliated with a participant, subject to the following conditions:

* * *

* * * Protected Cells; Separate Accounts * * *

Sec. 5. REDESIGNATION

8 V.S.A. § 6034b, § 6034c, and § 6034d are redesignated as § 6034c, § 6034d, and § 6034e.

Sec. 6. 8 V.S.A. § 6034b is added to read:

§ 6034b. SEPARATE ACCOUNTS OF PROTECTED CELLS

With the Commissioner's prior written approval, a protected cell of a sponsored captive insurance company may establish one or more separate

accounts and may allocate to them amounts to provide for the insurance of risks of one or more participants, or controlled unaffiliated business of such participant or participants, subject to the following:

(1) The income, gains, and losses, realized or unrealized, from assets allocated to a separate account shall be credited to or charged against the account, without regard to other income, gains, or losses of the protected cell.

(2) Amounts allocated to a separate account in the exercise of the power granted by this subsection are owned by the protected cell, and the protected cell may not be nor hold itself out to be a trustee with respect to such amounts.

(3) Unless otherwise approved by the Commissioner, assets allocated to a protected cell shall be valued in accordance with the rules otherwise applicable to the protected cell's assets.

(4) If and to the extent so provided under the applicable contracts, that portion of the assets of any such protected cell equal to the reserves and other contract liabilities with respect to such account shall not be chargeable with liabilities arising out of any other business the protected cell may conduct.

(5) No sale, exchange, or other transfer of assets may be made by such protected cell between any of its separate accounts or between any other investment account and one or more of its separate accounts unless, in the case of a transfer into a separate account, such transfer is made solely to establish the account or to support the operation of the contracts with respect to the separate account to which the transfer is made, and unless such transfer, whether into or from a separate account, is made by a transfer of cash or by a transfer of securities having a readily determinable market value, provided that such transfer of securities is approved by the Commissioner. The Commissioner may approve other transfers among such accounts if, in his or her opinion, such transfers would be equitable.

(6) To the extent such protected cell deems it necessary to comply with any applicable federal or State laws, such protected cell, with respect to any separate account, including any separate account that is a management investment company or a unit investment trust, may provide for persons having an interest therein appropriate voting and other rights and special procedures for the conduct of the business of such account, including special rights and procedures relating to investment policy, investment advisory services, selection of independent public accountants, and the selection of a committee, the members of which need not be otherwise affiliated with such protected cell, to manage the business of such account.

Sec. 7. 8 V.S.A. § 6010 is amended to read:

§ 6010. LEGAL INVESTMENTS

(a)(1) Except as may be otherwise authorized by the Commissioner, agency captive insurance companies, association captive insurance companies, sponsored captive insurance companies, protected cells in sponsored captive insurance companies, and risk retention groups shall:

(A) comply with the investment requirements contained in sections 3461 through 3472 of this title, as applicable; or

(B) submit for approval by the Commissioner the investment policy of the company. In reviewing the investment policy, the Commissioner shall consider diversification as to both type and issue; limits on the aggregate investment that may be made in any category of investment; limits on the aggregate investment in any one business, issuer, or risk; liquidity; and matching of assets and liabilities. The Commissioner shall determine whether the investment policy provides for the reasonable preservation, administration, and management of assets with respect to the risks associated with the company's transactions and whether the investment policy supports the approved business plan. Subdivision 6002(c)(3) of this title shall apply to all information submitted pursuant to this subsection.

(2) The Commissioner may require any company subject to this subsection to limit or withdraw from certain investments or discontinue certain investment practices if the Commissioner determines that such investments or practices of the company might be hazardous to the policyholders or the general public.

Sec. 8. 8 V.S.A. § 6037 is amended to read:

§ 6037. INVESTMENTS BY SPONSORED CAPTIVE INSURANCE COMPANIES AND PROTECTED CELLS

Notwithstanding the provisions of section 6034 of this title, the assets of two or more protected cells may be combined for purposes of investment, and such combination shall not be construed as defeating the segregation of such assets for accounting or other purposes. Sponsored captive insurance companies and protected cells shall comply with the investment requirements contained in ~~sections 3461 through 3472~~ section 6010 of this title, ~~as applicable; provided, however, that compliance with such investment requirements shall be waived for sponsored captive insurance companies to the extent that credit for reinsurance ceded to reinsurers is allowed pursuant to section 6011 of this title or to the extent otherwise deemed reasonable and appropriate by the Commissioner.~~ ~~Section 3463a of this title shall apply to~~

~~sponsored captive insurance companies except to the extent it is inconsistent with approved accounting standards in use by the company. Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, the Commissioner may approve the use of alternative reliable methods of valuation and rating.~~

* * * Conforming Cross-references * * *

Sec. 9. 8 V.S.A. § 6018 is amended to read:

§ 6018. DELINQUENCY

Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, the terms and conditions set forth in chapter 145 of this title shall apply in full to captive insurance companies formed or licensed under this chapter; however, the assets of a separate account established under subsection 6006~~(p)~~(q) of this chapter shall not be used to pay any expenses or claims other than those attributable to such separate account.

Sec. 10. 8 V.S.A. § 6034a is amended to read:

§ 6034a. INCORPORATED PROTECTED CELLS

(a) A protected cell of a sponsored captive insurance company may be formed as an incorporated protected cell, as defined in subdivision 6032~~(1)~~(2) of this title.

* * *

* * * Risk Retention Groups; Examinations; Conduct; Reports; NAIC
Accreditation Standards * * *

Sec. 11. 8 V.S.A. § 6052(d) is amended to read:

(d) The provisions of subsection 6008(c) and sections 3573 and 3574 of this title shall apply to risk retention groups chartered in this State, except that such provisions shall not apply to final examination reports relating to risk retention groups and except that the Commissioner may, in the Commissioner's discretion, grant access to any other examination information covered by subsection 6008(c) of this title to representatives of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners to inspect (but not copy) such information in connection with accreditation examinations, so long as the National Association of Insurance Commissioners agrees in writing to maintain the confidentiality of such information.

* * * Effective Date * * *

Sec. 12. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on passage.

(Committee vote: 7-0-0)

Resolution for Action

J.R.S. 35.

Joint resolution condemning the continuing occurrence of street harassment in Vermont.

PENDING QUESTION: Shall the resolution be adopted?

(For text of resolution, see Senate Journal of January 24, 2020, page 87.)

NOTICE CALENDAR

Committee Bill for Second Reading

S. 335.

An act relating to universal access to afterschool programs.

By the Committee on Education. (Senator Baruth for the Committee.)

Second Reading

Favorable with Proposals of Amendment

H. 760.

An act relating to fiscal year 2020 budget adjustments.

Reported favorably with recommendation of proposals of amendment by Senator Kitchel for the Committee on Appropriations.

The Committee recommends that the Senate propose to the House to amend the bill as follows:

First: By striking out Secs. 12, 14, and 34 in their entirety and inserting in lieu thereof new Secs. 12, 14, and 34 to read as follows:

Sec. 12. 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 72, Sec. B.301 is amended to read:

Sec. B.301 Secretary's office - global commitment

Operating expenses	3,150,212	3,150,212
Grants	<u>1,631,994,544</u>	<u>1,630,119,013</u>
Total	<u>1,635,144,756</u>	<u>1,633,269,225</u>
Source of funds		
General fund	<u>562,258,602</u>	557,208,815
Special funds	34,969,169	34,969,169
Tobacco fund	21,049,373	21,049,373
State health care resources fund	16,915,501	21,101,110
Federal funds	<u>984,584,332</u>	983,572,979
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>15,367,779</u>	<u>15,367,779</u>
Total	<u>1,635,144,756</u>	<u>1,633,269,225</u>

Sec. 14. 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 72, Sec. B.306 is amended to read:

Sec. B.306 Department of Vermont health access - administration

Personal services	134,603,806	140,308,825
Operating expenses	29,905,859	29,905,859
Grants	<u>7,314,723</u>	<u>6,764,723</u>
Total	171,824,388	176,979,407
Source of funds		
General fund	29,222,317	32,242,529
Special funds	6,096,108	6,096,108
Federal funds	124,749,165	124,749,165
Global Commitment fund	4,214,196	9,369,215
Interdepartmental transfers	<u>7,542,602</u>	<u>4,522,390</u>
Total	171,824,388	176,979,407

Sec. 34. 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 72, Sec. B.346 is amended to read:

Sec. B.346 Total human services

Source of funds		
General fund	997,706,686	1,007,088,907
Special funds	123,880,549	123,986,513
Tobacco fund	23,088,208	23,088,208
State health care resources fund	16,915,501	21,101,110
Federal funds	1,420,544,308	1,422,626,911
Global Commitment fund	1,590,055,367	1,374,334,713
Internal service funds	2,035,610	2,035,610
Interdepartmental transfers	39,446,402	36,346,190
Permanent trust funds	<u>25,000</u>	<u>25,000</u>
Total	4,213,697,631	4,010,633,162

Second: In Sec. 45, by striking out subdivision (c)(1) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new subdivision (c)(1) to read as follows:

(1) The following amounts shall revert to the General Funds Fund from the accounts indicated:

<u>1130030000</u>	<u>Department of Libraries</u>		<u>106,000.00</u>
<u>1210001000</u>	<u>Legislative Council</u>	<u>75,000.00</u>	<u>50,000.00</u>
<u>1210002000</u>	<u>Legislature</u>	<u>175,000.00</u>	<u>200,000.00</u>
<u>1210891801</u>	<u>Working Group Expenses</u>		<u>7,704.00</u>
<u>1220000000</u>	<u>Joint Fiscal Office</u>		<u>30,000.00</u>
<u>1240001000</u>	<u>Lieutenant Governor</u>		<u>1,555.54</u>
<u>2130100000</u>	<u>State's Attorneys</u>		<u>116,991.45</u>
<u>2130200000</u>	<u>Sheriffs</u>		<u>354,968.67</u>

<u>2130400000</u>	<u>Special investigative unit</u>	<u>2,603.49</u>
<u>2170010000</u>	<u>Criminal Justice Training Council</u>	<u>6,772.00</u>
<u>3300010000</u>	<u>Vermont Veterans' Home</u>	<u>50,000.00</u>
<u>3310000000</u>	<u>Commission on Women</u>	<u>1,732.18</u>
<u>3330010000</u>	<u>Green Mountain Care Board</u>	<u>80,674.56</u>
<u>1260891402</u>	<u>Public Retirement Plan Study</u>	<u>1,159.71</u>
<u>2240891101</u>	<u>Case Mgmt Syst-docket files</u>	<u>3,777.50</u>
<u>5100891904</u>	<u>Staff to Student Task Force</u>	<u>7,320.00</u>

And by striking out subsection (f) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new subsection (f) to read as follows:

(f) The following General Fund amount shall be reserved in fiscal year 2020 for fiscal year 2021 budget expenditures: \$18,365,715. These funds shall be unreserved in fiscal year 2021.

Third: In Sec. 49 by inserting a new subsection (d) to read as follows:

(d) In fiscal year 2020, the sum of \$25,000 is appropriated to the Secretary of Administration to support initial planning and expenses of the Vermont 250th Commission to be formed to coordinate commemorative celebrations statewide for the 250th anniversary of various historic events and battles leading to our declaration as an independent State (this period is currently referred to as the Vermont Republic).

Fourth: By striking out Sec. 52 in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec. 52 to read as follows:

Sec. 52. 16 V.S.A. § 2857 amended to read:

§ 2857. VERMONT NATIONAL GUARD TUITION BENEFIT PROGRAM

(a) Program creation. The Vermont National Guard Tuition Benefit Program (Program) is created, under which a member of the Vermont National Guard (member) who meets the eligibility requirements in subsection (c) of this section is entitled to the following tuition benefit for up to full-time attendance:

(1) For courses at either campus of the Northern Vermont University (NVU), the Vermont Technical College (VTC), the University of Vermont and State Agricultural College (UVM), or at the Community College of Vermont (CCV), the benefit shall be the in-state residence tuition rate for the relevant institution.

(2) For courses at a Vermont State College, other than NVU, VTC, or CCV, or at any eligible Vermont private postsecondary institution, the benefit shall be the in-state tuition rate charged by NVU.

(3) For courses at an eligible training institution offering nondegree, certificate training, or continuing education programs, the benefit shall be the lower of the institution's standard tuition or the in-state tuition rate charged by NVU.

* * *

Fifth: By striking out Sec. 54 in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec. 54 to read as follows:

Sec. 54. CALENDAR YEAR 2020 DELIVERY SYSTEM REFORM
INVESTMENT COORDINATION

(a) In order to ensure coordination of funding and the strategic alignment of resources for delivery system-reform (DSR) related investments in calendar year 2020, the Agency of Human Services shall ensure that DSR projects recommended for funding are consistent with the criteria defined in Attachment I (Menu of Approvable Delivery System Investments) of the Global Commitment to Health Section 1115 Demonstration. At a minimum, the Agency shall apply the metrics for evaluation as prescribed in Attachments I and J (Investment Application Template) of the Global Commitment to Health Section 1115 Demonstration and may also consider additional metrics that align with the Vermont All-Payer Accountable Care Organization Model Agreement's three population health and health outcomes targets. In addition, the Agency shall require the Accountable Care Organization and DSR investment recipients to evaluate each project to determine whether it should be scaled or sunset, based on its performance against established metrics. All DSR investment projects to support implementation of Vermont's All-Payer Accountable Care Organization (ACO) model shall be designed and prioritized in partnership with the Agency and with the relevant departments within the Agency and funding shall be dependent on the approval of the Agency and relevant departments.

Sixth: By striking out Sec. 70 in its entirety and inserting two new sections to be numbered Secs. 70 and 71 to read as follows:

Sec. 70. 2019 Acts and Resolves No. 58, Sec. 5, is amended to read:

Sec. 5. CREATION OF NEW CORRECTIONAL OFFICER POSITIONS

~~On or before June 30, 2020, the Secretary of Administration shall create 30 new Correctional Officer I positions in the Department of Corrections, which shall be funded within existing departmental appropriations.~~

(a) The establishment of the following permanent classified positions is authorized in fiscal year 2020:

(1) In the Department of Corrections – fifteen (15) Correctional Officer I positions.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, through December 31, 2021, no vacant Correctional Officer I positions shall be reassigned to the Department of Human Resources State position pool.

(c) The Agency of Human Services and the Department of Corrections shall report to the Legislative Joint Justice Oversight and Joint Fiscal Committees at their respective meetings in November 2020 on the status of correctional facility staff recruitment, retention and reduction in the use of overtime, and the status of initial and ongoing training for correctional facility staff.

Sec. 71. EFFECTIVE DATES

(a) This act shall take effect on passage.

(b) Notwithstanding 1 V.S.A. § 214, Sec. 52 (National Guard tuition benefit program) shall take effect on passage and shall apply retroactively to July 1, 2019.

(Committee vote: 7-0-0)

(No House amendments.)

Report of Committee of Conference

S. 23.

An act relating to increasing the minimum wage.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

The Committee of Conference to which were referred the disagreeing votes of the two Houses upon Senate Bill entitled:

S.23. An act relating to increasing the minimum wage.

Respectfully reports that it has met and considered the same and recommends that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 21 V.S.A. § 384(a) is amended to read:

(a)(1) An employer shall not employ any employee at a rate of less than \$9.15. Beginning on January 1, 2016, an employer shall not employ any employee at a rate of less than \$9.60. Beginning on January 1, 2017, an employer shall not employ any employee at a rate of less than \$10.00. Beginning on January 1, 2018, an employer shall not employ any employee at a rate of less than \$10.50, and beginning \$10.96. Beginning on January 1,

2019 January 1, 2021, an employer shall not employ any employee at a rate of less than \$11.75. Beginning on January 1, 2022, an employer shall not employ any employee at a rate of less than \$12.55, and on each subsequent January 1, the minimum wage rate shall be increased by five percent or the percentage increase of the Consumer Price Index, CPI-U, U.S. city average, not seasonally adjusted, or successor index, as calculated by the U.S. Department of Labor or successor agency for the 12 months preceding the previous September 1, whichever is smaller, but in no event shall the minimum wage be decreased. The minimum wage shall be rounded off to the nearest \$0.01.

(2) An employer in the hotel, motel, tourist place, and restaurant industry shall not employ a service or tipped employee at a basic wage rate less than one-half the minimum wage. As used in this subsection, “a service or tipped employee” means an employee of a hotel, motel, tourist place, or restaurant who customarily and regularly receives more than \$120.00 per month in tips for direct and personal customer service.

(3) If the minimum wage rate established by the U.S. government is greater than the rate established for Vermont for any year, the minimum wage rate for that year shall be the rate established by the U.S. government.

Sec. 2. TIPPED AND STUDENT MINIMUM WAGE STUDY; REPORT

On or before January 15, 2021, the Office of Legislative Council and the Joint Fiscal Office shall submit a written report to the House Committee on General, Housing, and Military Affairs and the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs regarding the potential effects of altering or eliminating the basic wage rate for tipped employees in Vermont and of eliminating the subminimum wage for secondary school students during the school year. In particular, the report shall:

(1) for states that have eliminated their tipped minimum wage, examine available research and information regarding the impact on:

(A) jobs, prices, and the state economy; and

(B) the welfare of tipped workers, women, and working families with children;

(2) for states that have increased their tipped wage during the last 10 years, examine available research and information regarding the impact on:

(A) jobs, prices, and the state economy; and

(B) the welfare of tipped workers, women, and working families with children;

(3) for states that have decoupled their tipped wage from the standard minimum wage during the last 10 years, examine available research and information regarding the impact on:

(A) jobs, prices, and the state economy; and

(B) the welfare of tipped workers, women, and working families with children;

(4) examine any available research and information regarding the projected impact in Vermont of altering or eliminating the basic wage rate for tipped employees on:

(A) jobs, prices, and the State economy; and

(B) the welfare of tipped workers, women, and working families with children;

(5) for states that have eliminated a subminimum wage for secondary school students, examine available research and information regarding the impact on:

(A) jobs, prices, and the state economy; and

(B) the welfare of individuals under 22 years of age; and

(6) for Vermont, examine available research and information regarding the projected impact in Vermont of eliminating the subminimum wage for secondary school students on:

(A) jobs, prices, and the State economy; and

(B) the welfare of individuals under 22 years of age.

Sec. 3. WAGE AND HOUR LAWS FOR AGRICULTURAL WORKERS; REPORT

On or before January 15, 2021, the Office of Legislative Council shall submit a written report to the House Committee on General, Housing, and Military Affairs and the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs regarding the wage and hour laws for agricultural workers. In particular, the report shall:

(1) examine the overlapping legal requirements of Vermont's wage and hour laws, the federal Fair Labor Standards Act, and other federal employment laws with respect to agricultural employees and employers; and

(2) summarize how other states' wage and hour laws address agricultural employees and employers.

Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.

*MICHAEL D. SIROTKIN
ALISON CLARKSON
REBECCA A. BALINT*

Committee on the part of the Senate

*THOMAS S. STEVENS
JOHN R KILLACKY
MARY S. HOOPER*

Committee on the part of the House

CONFIRMATIONS

The following appointments will be considered by the Senate, as a group, under suspension of the Rules, as moved by the President *pro tempore*, for confirmation together and without debate, by consent thereby given by the Senate. However, upon request of any senator, any appointment may be singled out and acted upon separately by the Senate, with consideration given to the report of the Committee to which the appointment was referred, and with full debate; and further, all appointments for the positions of Secretaries of Agencies, Commissioners of Departments, Judges, Magistrates, and members of the Public Utility Commission shall be fully and separately acted upon.

Craig Bolio of Winooski – Commissioner, Department of Taxes – By Sen. Cummings for the Committee on Finance. (01/21/20)

Michael Schirling of Burlington – Commissioner, Department of Public Safety – Sen. Mazza for the Committee on Transportation. (01/29/20)

Sabina Brochu of Williston - Member, State Board of Education - By Sen. Ingram for the Committee on Education. (01/24/20)

Kyle Courtois of Georgia - Member, State Board of Education - By Sen. Perchlik for the Committee on Education. (01/24/20)

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Joint Community-Based Public Hearings on Fiscal Year 2021 State Budget

House and Senate Committees on Appropriations

Monday, February 10, 2020, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. – The Vermont House and Senate Committees on Appropriations are seeking public input on the Governor’s Recommended FY 2021 State Budget and will hold community-based public hearings on Monday, February 10, 2020, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. at the following 7 locations. An additional location in Springfield will be held from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Barre City – Downstreet Housing and Community Development, 22 Keith Ave., Ste 100

Dorset – Dorset Town Office, 112 Mad Tom Road, East Dorset

Morrisville – People’s Academy High School, Auditorium, top of Copley Avenue

Rutland City – Rutland Public Schools, Longfellow School Building, Board Room

St. Johnsbury – St. Johnsbury House, main dining room, 1207 Main Street

St. Albans City – St. Albans City School, Library, 29 Bellows Street

Winooski – Vermont Student Assistance Corp. (VSAC), 10 East Allen Street (follow the signs when entering the building for location).

Springfield – Springfield Town Hall, 96 Main Street, 3rd Floor Conference Room (Selectmen’s Hall) **5:30-6:30 p.m.**

The Committees will take testimony on the Governor’s recommended State budget at the above dates and times. Anyone interested in testifying should come to one of the hearings. Time limits on testimony may apply depending on volume of participants. If you have a story you would like to share privately with the committee members, please contact Theresa to schedule a time.

To view the Governor’s proposed budget go to the Department of Finance and Management’s website.

For more information about the format of these events, contact Theresa Utton-Jerman or Rebecca Buck at tutton@leg.state.vt.us or rbuck@leg.state.vt.us, or call 802-828-5767 or toll-free within Vermont at 1-800-322-5616. Written

testimony can be submitted electronically to Theresa or Rebecca through e-mail or mailed to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, 115 State Street, Montpelier, VT, 05633. **Requests for interpreters should be made by Monday, January 27, 2020.**

JFO NOTICE

Grants and Positions that have been submitted to the Joint Fiscal Committee by the Administration, under 32 V.S.A. §5(b)(3)(D):

JFO #2989 - \$1,250,000 from the U.S. Dept. of Justice to the VT Dept. of Children & Families to fund the expansion of mentoring opportunities for youth in rural parts of Vermont who are at risk of adverse childhood experiences (ACES), substance abuse and poverty. *Expedited review of this grant has been requested by the Administration.*

[JFO received 01/09/20]

JFO #2990 – \$3,200,000 from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to the VT Dept. of Health. Funds will be used to provide first responders with improved and expanded access to opioid overdose prevention training, equipment and medication. *One (1) limited-service position has been requested in conjunction with this grant.*

[JFO received 01/14/20]

JFO #2991 – \$53,768 from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to the VT Dept. of Fish & Wildlife. Funds will be used to restore brook trout habitat in tributaries along the Connecticut River watershed.

[JFO received 01/14/20]

JFO #2992 – \$30,000 from the Federal Emergency Management Agency to the VT Dept. of Environmental Conservation. Funds will be used to increase earthquake hazard risk awareness in areas of Chittenden County.

[JFO received 01/14/20]