Senate Calendar

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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.)

NEW BUSINESS

Third Reading

S. 326.

An act relating to the State Advisory Panel on Special Education.
NOTICE CALENDAR

Second Reading
Favorable with Recommendation of Amendment
S. 263.

An act relating to the Parent Child Center Network.

Reported favorably with recommendation of amendment by Senator Westman for the Committee on Health and Welfare.

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

Sec. 1. 33 V.S.A. chapter 37 is amended to read:

Chapter 37. PARENT-CHILD CENTER PROGRAM NETWORK

§ 3701. PARENT-CHILD CENTER PROGRAM NETWORK; ELIGIBILITY

(a) For purposes of As used in this chapter, “parent-child center”:

(1) “Parent Child Center” means a community-based organization established for the purpose of providing prevention and early intervention services such as parenting education, support, training, referral and related services to prospective parents and families with young children including those whose children are medically, socially, or educationally at risk that serves as a central hub and lead provider of services for primary prevention and strengthening protective factors for families with young children on behalf of the State.

(2) “Parent Child Center Network” means an Agency of Human Services’ community partner comprised of designated parent child centers that ensures accountability and collaboration among designated parent child centers.

(b) The Secretary of Human Services shall:

(1) upon applications made annually, award grants to eligible parent-child centers;

(2) establish, by rule, a formula for determining the amount of grants awarded under this chapter and minimum eligibility standards for such awards. The Parent Child Center Network may recommend to the Secretary of Human Services or a designee one or more new parent child centers for designation every six years. Upon receipt of the Network’s recommendations, the
Secretary or designee shall review each parent child center recommended for designation to ensure it meets the criteria set forth in subsection (c) of this section. A parent child center recommended by the Network and determined to meet the criteria in subsection (c) of this section by the Secretary or a designee shall be deemed a designated parent child center.

(c) In order to be eligible for a grant under this chapter, a parent child center designation pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, a parent child center shall:

(1) Receive some funding from one or more private, local, or federal source. Contributions in kind, whether material, commodities, transportation, or office space, may be used to satisfy the contribution requirement of this subdivision.

(2) Qualify for tax exempt status under the provisions of Section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code.

(3) Have parent representation on its board of directors.

(4) Represent a designated geographic catchment area.

(5) Complete:

   (A) an annual self-assessment in accordance with national standards for family resource centers; and

   (B) a peer review every three years, which shall be conducted by the Parent Child Center Network.

(6) Provide each of the eight core services set forth in subsection (d) of this section.

(7) Indicate an intention to participate in the Parent Child Center Network as a member.

(8) Work to achieve population level quality of life outcomes related to children and families pursuant to 3 V.S.A. § 2311.

(d) A parent child center funded under this chapter shall:

(1) provide leadership in the coordination of services for families with other community service providers;

(2) provide such financial or programmatic information as may be necessary to enable the Secretary of Human Services to evaluate the services provided through grant funds, the effect of such services on consumers of these services and an accounting of the expenditure of grant funds;
(3) participate in an annual peer review process conducted by the parent-child center network and the Agency of Human Services designated parent child center shall provide the following eight core services:

(1) home visits;
(2) early childhood services;
(3) parent education;
(4) playgroups;
(5) parent support groups;
(6) concrete supports;
(7) community development; and
(8) resources and referrals.

(e) Any parent child center in existence on January 1, 2020 shall be deemed to meet the designation criteria in subsection (c) of this section.

§ 3702. FUNDING

(a) The Secretary of Human Services shall annually disperse a joint appropriation for all parent child center services to the Parent Child Center Network, which shall distribute funding to each designated parent child center. Notwithstanding subsection (c) of this section, any increases to base funding shall be based on increased community need, the provision of additional services, or the designation of a new parent child center.

(b) The Parent Child Center Network shall work in partnership with the Agency of Human Services to develop appropriate measures of accountability and to provide any financial or programmatic information as may be necessary to enable the Secretary to evaluate the services provided through grant funds, the effect of services on consumers, and an accounting of the expenditure of grant funds.

(c) In determining the annual appropriation for the Parent Child Center Network, the Secretary shall employ an annual inflation factor that is reasonable and that adequately reflects economic conditions.

Sec. 2. APPROPRIATION

In fiscal year 2021, $7,500,000.00 is appropriated to the Parent Child Center Network.

Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.

(Committee vote: 5-0-0)
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.