

**S.233: Summary of House's Proposed Amendments to
S.233 As Passed Senate**

(See also [this annotated strike-all](#) and [this summary of it](#) prepared for House Gov Ops, which show all of the House's proposed changes, except for the addition of Sec. 23 (electrician and plumbers; criminal backgrounds) and Sec. 25's revised effective dates.)

Agency of Education; requested changes.

The Agency of Education [requested several changes](#), which were incorporated into the House proposal of amendment:

- 1) *Endorsement based on licensed practice in another U.S. jurisdiction.*
 - In the House prop, in Sec. 7, 16 V.S.A. § 1694(3)(B) on pg. 12, in the first sentence, by adding "licensed" preceding "practice" to clarify that licensure by endorsement is based on *licensed practice* in another U.S. state, since some states may not require licensure to teach in private schools.
 - In that same subdiv. on the top of pg. 13, by substituting "licensure through this process" for "licensed by reciprocity" to distinguish this ability to be licensed from the separate, current law authority to be licensed by reciprocity.
- 2) *Correcting the duties of the Sec. of Education vs. the Standards Board.*
 - In the House prop, in Sec. 8, 16 V.S.A. § 1695a(b), pgs. 14-15, by correcting the duties of the Sec. of Education vs. the Standards Board to conform to current statutory authority.
- 3) *Clarifying the existing authority to become licensed by reciprocity.*
 - In the House prop, by adding Sec. 9 on pg. 15 to clarify that current law ability for a person to be licensed by reciprocity is in addition to S.233's ability for a person to be licensed by endorsement.

Electricians and plumbers; criminal backgrounds.

Testimony from the Department of Public Safety indicated that under current law, an applicant would not be disqualified from obtaining a license as an electrician or a plumber due to having a criminal background. Accordingly, the House prop:

- 1) *Removed the criminal background pre-application determinations* and the corresponding \$25 fee for it, since under current law, a criminal background would not prevent the applicant from thereafter obtaining licensure in these professions.
- 2) *Added the Sec. 23 report* from the Electricians and Plumbers licensing boards to the Gov Ops and General committees by 1/15/21 re: whether the law should be amended to provide that criminal convictions constitute unprofessional conduct and therefore grounds on which the board may deny licensure or otherwise discipline a licensee, and whether applicants should be required to submit to a criminal background check.

Effective date changed from 7/1/20 to 4/1/21, except that the Sec. 23 electrician/plumber report requirement would take effect on passage.