

1 TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

2 The Committee on Institutions to which was referred Senate Bill No. 285
3 entitled “An act relating to the State House Artwork and Portrait Project
4 Committee” respectfully reports that it has considered the same and
5 recommends that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting
6 clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

7 Sec. 1. 2 V.S.A. § 651 is amended to read:

8 § 651. LEGISLATIVE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE STATE
9 HOUSE

10 (a) The Legislative Advisory Committee on the State House is created.

11 * * *

12 (d) The Committee shall meet at the State House at least ~~one time~~ two
13 times during the months of July and December or at the call of the Chair. The
14 Commissioner of Buildings and General Services shall keep minutes of the
15 meetings and maintain a file thereof.

16 (e) The Committee shall have the assistance of the Office of Legislative
17 Council.

18 Sec. 2. 2 V.S.A. § 653 is amended to read:

19 § 653. FUNCTIONS

20 (a)(1) The Legislative Advisory Committee on the State House shall be
21 consulted on all activities relating to the acquisition and care of paintings and

1 historic artifacts and furnishings, and the refurbishing, renovation,
2 preservation, and expansion of the building and its interior.

3 (2) The Legislative Advisory Committee on the State House shall
4 develop a plan for the acquisition or commission of artwork for the State
5 House collection that represents Vermont’s diverse people and history,
6 including diversity of gender, race, ethnicity, sexuality, and disability status.

7 * * *

8 Sec. 3. STATE HOUSE ARTWORK AND PORTRAIT PROJECT;
9 LEGISLATIVE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE STATE
10 HOUSE; REPORT

11 (a) Intent. It is the intent of the General Assembly:

12 (1) to expand the State House artwork and portrait collection to
13 represent the diversity of stories of leaders who have significantly contributed
14 to Vermont’s unique history;

15 (2) to give special consideration to the State House as a place of
16 employment for a diverse workforce and as an institution of public education
17 for students and members of the general public; and

18 (3) that the State have a policy of including diverse leadership stories
19 that reflect all of Vermont’s history when acquiring or commissioning artistic
20 representation for the State House art collection.

1 (b) Policy. It is the policy of the General Assembly that the State House art
2 collection shall reflect:

3 (1) those who have served as elected officials or political leaders and
4 have significantly contributed to the unique history of Vermont;

5 (2) those whose service as elected officials or political leaders relate to
6 the governance of the State or the Abenaki Nation, the civil rights of
7 Vermonters, the legislative process, or the operation of the State House; and

8 (3) stories of significance to a community, a tribe, or historical moments
9 that demonstrate the diverse nature of Vermont’s people and history.

10 (c) Plan. Pursuant to 2 V.S.A. § 653, the Legislative Advisory Committee
11 on the State House, in consultation with the State Curator, the State Archivist,
12 the State Librarian, the Director of the Vermont Commission on Women, and
13 the Executive Director of Racial Equity, shall develop a plan for the
14 acquisition or commission of artwork for the State House collection that
15 incorporates the intent and policies described in subsections (a) and (b) of this
16 section.

17 (d) Recommendations. The Committee, in consultation with the public and
18 relevant experts, including Vermont historians, artists, and diverse community
19 leaders, shall research and recommend significant historical Vermont
20 leadership stories that warrant artistic inclusion in the State House art

1 collection using the intent and policies described in subsections (a) and (b) of
2 this section.

3 (e) Report. On or before January 15, 2021, the Committee shall submit a
4 written report to the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions and the
5 Senate Committee on Institutions with the plan and recommendations
6 described in this section and any recommendations for legislative action.

7 Sec. 3. 29 V.S.A. § 154a is amended to read:

8 § 154a. STATE CURATOR

9 (a) Creation. The position of State Curator is created within the
10 Department of Buildings and General Services.

11 (b) Duties. The State Curator's responsibilities shall include:

12 (1) oversight of the general historic preservation of the State House,
13 including maintaining the historical integrity of the State House and works of
14 art in the State House;

15 (2) interpretation of the State House to the visiting public through
16 exhibits, publications, and tours; and

17 (3) acquisition, management, and care of State collections of art and
18 historic furnishings, provided that any works of art for the State House are
19 acquired pursuant to the requirements of 2 V.S.A. § 653(a).

20 (c) Acquisition policy. In coordination with the Legislative Advisory
21 Committee on the State House, and in accordance with the plan developed

1 pursuant to 2 V.S.A. § 653, the State Curator shall adopt an acquisition policy
2 that ensures that the acquisition of art for the State House reflects a diversity of
3 artistic media and artists and the diversity of the people and stories of Vermont
4 throughout the history of the State.

5 (d) Interpretive plan. In coordination with the Friends of the Vermont State
6 House and the Vermont Historical Society, the State Curator shall create an
7 interpretive plan that tells the stories of the State House art collection through
8 accessible written, multimedia, and oral means. The plan shall include
9 appropriate and inclusive training of State House volunteers and staff.

10 Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE

11 This act shall take effect on passage.

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18 (Committee vote: _____)

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Senator _____

FOR THE COMMITTEE