

1 S.178

2 Introduced by Senator Sears

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Court proceedings; conduct of trial; civil jury verdict; supermajority
6 required

7 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes that, unless the
8 parties stipulate otherwise, a jury verdict or finding in a civil trial shall be
9 rendered by a supermajority of at least two-thirds of the jurors.

10 An act relating to supermajority verdicts in civil trials

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

12 Sec. 1. 12 V.S.A. § 1950 is added to read:

13 § 1950. VERDICT; TWO-THIRDS SUPERMAJORITY REQUIRED

14 Unless the parties stipulate otherwise, a verdict or finding agreed to by at
15 least two-thirds of the total number of jurors serving on a jury in a civil trial
16 shall be taken as the verdict or finding of the jury.

17 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

18 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2022.