

House Calendar

Tuesday, February 8, 2022

36th DAY OF THE ADJOURNED SESSION

House Convenes at 10:00 A.M.

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ACTION CALENDAR

Action Postponed until February 8, 2022

Constitutional Proposal

Prop 5 Declaration of rights; right to personal reproductive liberty

Rep. Pugh of South Burlington for Human Services

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION
OF THE STATE OF VERMONT

Subject: Declaration of rights; right to personal reproductive liberty

PROPOSAL 5

Sec. 1. PURPOSE

(a) This proposal would amend the Constitution of the State of Vermont to ensure that every Vermonter is afforded personal reproductive liberty. The Constitution is our founding legal document stating the overarching values of our society. This amendment is in keeping with the values espoused by the current Vermont Constitution. Chapter I, Article 1 declares “That all persons are born equally free and independent, and have certain natural, inherent, and unalienable rights.” Chapter I, Article 7 states “That government is, or ought to be, instituted for the common benefit, protection, and security of the people.” The core value reflected in Article 7 is that all people should be afforded all the benefits and protections bestowed by the government, and that the government should not confer special advantages upon the privileged. This amendment would reassert the principles of equality and personal liberty reflected in Articles 1 and 7 and ensure that government does not create or perpetuate the legal, social, or economic inferiority of any class of people. This proposed constitutional amendment is not intended to limit the scope of rights and protections afforded by Article 7 or any other provision in the Vermont Constitution.

(b) The right to reproductive liberty is central to the exercise of personal autonomy and involves decisions people should be able to make free from compulsion of the State. Enshrining this right in the Constitution is critical to ensuring equal protection and treatment under the law and upholding the right of all people to health, dignity, independence, and freedom.

Sec. 2. Article 22 of Chapter I of the Vermont Constitution is added to read:

Article 22. [Personal reproductive liberty]

That an individual's right to personal reproductive autonomy is central to the liberty and dignity to determine one's own life course and shall not be denied or infringed unless justified by a compelling State interest achieved by the least restrictive means.

Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

The amendment set forth in Sec. 2 shall become a part of the Constitution of the State of Vermont on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of November 2022 when ratified and adopted by the people of this State in accordance with the provisions of 17 V.S.A. chapter 32.

NEW BUSINESS

Favorable with Amendment

H. 510

An act relating to creating a Vermont child tax credit

Rep. Kornheiser of Brattleboro, for the Committee on Ways and Means, recommends the bill be amended by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

* * * Child Tax Credit * * *

Sec. 1. 32 V.S.A. § 5830f is added to read:

§ 5830f. VERMONT CHILD TAX CREDIT

(a) A resident individual or part-year resident individual who is entitled to a child tax credit under the laws of the United States shall be entitled to a refundable credit against the tax imposed by section 5822 of this title for the taxable year. The total credit per taxable year shall be in the amount of \$1,200.00 per qualifying child, as defined under 26 U.S.C. § 152(c), who is six years of age or younger as of the close of the calendar year in which the taxable year of the taxpayer begins. For a part-year resident individual, the amount of the credit shall be multiplied by the percentage that the individual's income that is earned or received during the period of the individual's residency in this State bears to the individual's total income.

(b) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, the amount of the credit under this section shall be reduced, but not below zero, by \$50.00 for each \$1,000.00, or fraction thereof, by which the individual's adjusted gross income exceeds \$200,000.00, irrespective of the individual's filing status. For purposes of this subsection, spouses filing jointly shall be considered an individual.

(c) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the refundable credit and its payment authorized under this section shall be treated in the same manner as the federal Earned Income Tax Credit and shall not be considered as assets, income, or resources to the same extent the credit and its payment would be disregarded pursuant to 26 U.S.C. § 6409 and the general welfare doctrine for purposes of determining eligibility for benefits or assistance, or the amount or extent of those benefits or assistance, under any State or local program, including programs established under 33 V.S.A. § 3512 and chapters 11, 17, 21, 25, and 26, for a period of 12 months from receipt. This subsection shall only apply to the extent that it does not conflict with federal law relating to the benefit or assistance program and that any required federal approval or waiver is first obtained for that program.

Sec. 2. 32 V.S.A. § 5830f(d) is added to read:

(d) The Commissioner shall determine and pay 50 percent of the credit allowed to each individual under this section on or before September 1 of the taxable year, unless the individual elects not to receive the payment. The remaining credit allowed to each individual under this section shall be determined at the time of filing a Vermont personal income tax return for the taxable year pursuant to section 5861 of this title.

Sec. 3. 32 V.S.A. § 5813(y) is added to read:

(y) The statutory purpose of the Vermont child tax credit in section 5830f of this title is to provide financial support to families with young children.

Sec. 4. REPORT ON MONTHLY CHILD TAX CREDIT PAYMENTS

On or before January 15, 2023, the Commissioner of Taxes, in consultation with the Commissioner for Children and Families, shall report to the House Committees on Human Services and on Ways and Means and the Senate Committees on Finance and on Health and Welfare recommendations and considerations for making advance monthly payments of the child tax credit under 32 V.S.A. § 5830f, including:

(1) options for administering advance monthly payments during the taxable year;

(2) structuring the advance monthly payments or requesting preliminary approvals or waivers from federal benefit and assistance programs in a manner that will exclude the advance monthly payments from income, assets, or resources used in making benefit and assistance determinations; and

(3) any proposed legislative action.

* * * Social Security Income Exclusion * * *

Sec. 5. 32 V.S.A. § 5830e is amended to read:

§ 5830e. SOCIAL SECURITY INCOME

The portion of federally taxable Social Security benefits excluded from taxable income under subdivision 5811(21)(B)(iv) of this chapter shall be as follows:

(1) For taxpayers whose filing status is single, married filing separately, head of household, or ~~qualifying widow or widower~~ surviving spouse:

(A) If the federal adjusted gross income of the taxpayer is less than or equal to ~~\$45,000.00~~ \$50,000.00, all federally taxable benefits received under the federal Social Security Act shall be excluded.

(B) If the federal adjusted gross income of the taxpayer is greater than ~~\$45,000.00~~ \$50,000.00 but less than ~~\$55,000.00~~ \$60,000.00, the percentage of federally taxable benefits received under the Social Security Act to be excluded shall be proportional to the amount of the taxpayer's federal adjusted gross income over ~~\$45,000.00~~ \$50,000.00, determined by:

(i) subtracting the federal adjusted gross income of the taxpayer from ~~\$55,000.00~~ \$60,000.00;

(ii) dividing the value under subdivision (i) of this subdivision (B) by \$10,000.00; and

(iii) multiplying the value under subdivision (ii) of this subdivision (B) by the federally taxable benefits received under the Social Security Act.

(C) If the federal adjusted gross income of the taxpayer is equal to or greater than ~~\$55,000.00~~ \$60,000.00, no amount of the federally taxable benefits received under the Social Security Act shall be excluded under this section.

(2) For taxpayers whose filing status is married filing jointly:

(A) If the federal adjusted gross income of the taxpayer is less than or equal to ~~\$60,000.00~~ \$65,000.00, all federally taxable benefits received under the Social Security Act shall be excluded.

(B) If the federal adjusted gross income of the taxpayer is greater than ~~\$60,000.00~~ \$65,000.00 but less than ~~\$70,000.00~~ \$75,000.00, the percentage of federally taxable benefits received under the Social Security Act to be excluded shall be proportional to the amount of the taxpayer's federal adjusted gross income over ~~\$60,000.00~~ \$65,000.00, determined by:

(i) subtracting the federal adjusted gross income of the taxpayer from ~~\$70,000.00~~ \$75,000.00;

(ii) dividing the value under subdivision (i) of this subdivision (B) by \$10,000.00; and

(iii) multiplying the value under subdivision (ii) of this subdivision (B) by the federally taxable benefits received under the Social Security Act.

(C) If the federal adjusted gross income of the taxpayer is equal to or greater than ~~\$70,000.00~~ \$75,000.00, no amount of the federally taxable benefits received under the Social Security Act shall be excluded under this section.

* * * Effective Dates * * *

Sec. 6. EFFECTIVE DATES

(a) This section and Sec. 4 (report on monthly child tax credit payments) shall take effect on passage.

(b) Notwithstanding 1 V.S.A. § 214, Secs. 1 (child tax credit), 3 (child tax credit statutory purpose), and 5 (Social Security income exclusion) shall take effect retroactively on January 1, 2022 and shall apply to taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2022.

(c) Sec. 2 (advance payment of child tax credit) shall take effect on January 1, 2023 and shall apply to taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2023.

and that after passage the title of the bill be amended to read: “An act relating to a Vermont Child Tax Credit and the Vermont Social Security income exclusion”

(Committee Vote: 8-3-0)

Favorable

H. 559

An act relating to workers' compensation

Rep. Mulvaney-Stanak of Burlington, for the Committee on Commerce and Economic Development, recommends the bill ought to pass.

(Committee Vote: 11-0-0)

Rep. Durfee of Shaftsbury, for the Committee on Ways and Means, recommends the bill ought to pass.

(Committee Vote:9-0-2)

NOTICE CALENDAR
Favorable with Amendment

H. 477

An act relating to leave for crime victims

Rep. Stevens of Waterbury, for the Committee on General, Housing, and Military Affairs, recommends the bill be amended by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 21 V.S.A. § 472c is amended to read:

§ 472c. LEAVE; ALLEGED CRIME VICTIMS; RELIEF FROM STALKING OR ABUSE

(a) As used in this section:

(1)(A) “Alleged victim” means a person who is alleged in an affidavit filed by a law enforcement official with a prosecuting attorney of competent state or federal jurisdiction to have sustained physical, emotional, or financial injury or death as a direct result of the commission or attempted commission of a crime or act of delinquency. The term “alleged victim” also includes a family member of such a person if the person:

(i) is a minor;

(ii) has been found to be incompetent;

(iii) is alleged to have suffered physical or emotional injury as a result of the violent crime or act of delinquency; or

(iv) was killed as a result of the alleged crime or act of delinquency.

(B) As used in this subdivision (a)(1):

(i) “Family member” means an individual who is not identified in the affidavit as the defendant and is the alleged victim’s:

(I) child, foster child, or stepchild;

(II) ward who lives with the alleged victim;

(III) spouse, domestic partner, or civil union partner;

(IV) sibling;

(V) grandparent;

(VI) grandchild;

(VII) parent or a parent of the alleged victim's spouse, domestic partner, or civil union partner;

(VIII) legal guardian; or

(IX) an individual for whom the alleged victim stands in loco parentis or who stood in loco parentis for the alleged victim when the alleged victim was a child.

(ii) "Domestic partner" has the same meaning as in 17 V.S.A. § 2414.

(iii) "In loco parentis" means an individual for whom the alleged victim has day-to-day responsibilities to care for and financially support, or, in the case of the alleged victim, an individual who had such responsibility for the alleged victim when the alleged victim was a child.

(iv) "Violent crime" means a "listed crime" as that term is defined in 13 V.S.A. § 5301(7) and any comparable offense in another jurisdiction.

(2) "Employer" means an individual, organization, governmental body, partnership, association, corporation, legal representative, trustee, receiver, trustee in bankruptcy, and any common carrier by rail, motor, water, air, or express company doing business in or operating within this State.

~~(2)(3)~~ "Employee" means a person who ~~is a crime victim as defined in section 495d of this chapter and~~, in consideration of direct or indirect gain or profit, has been continuously employed by the same employer for a period of six months for an average of at least 20 hours per week.

(b) In addition to the leave provided in section 472 of this title, an employee shall be entitled to take unpaid leave from employment for the purpose of attending a deposition or court proceeding related to:

(1) a criminal proceeding, when the employee is a an alleged victim as ~~defined in 13 V.S.A. § 5301~~ and the employee has a right or obligation to appear at the proceeding;

* * *

Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on passage.

(Committee Vote: 11-0-0)

H. 655

An act relating to establishing a telehealth licensure and registration system

Rep. Houghton of Essex, for the Committee on Health Care, recommends the bill be amended by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

* * * Telehealth Licensure and Registration * * *

Sec. 1. 26 V.S.A. chapter 56 is added to read:

CHAPTER 56. TELEHEALTH LICENSURE AND REGISTRATION FOR OUT-OF-STATE HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS

§ 3051. SCOPE

(a) This chapter shall apply to the following health care professions regulated by the Office of Professional Regulation:

(1) alcohol and drug abuse counseling;

(2) allied mental health professions, including mental health counseling, marriage and family therapy, and services provided by nonlicensed and noncertified psychotherapists;

(3) applied behavior analysis;

(4) athletic training;

(5) audiology;

(6) chiropractic;

(7) dentistry;

(8) dietetics;

(9) midwifery;

(10) naturopathy;

(11) nursing;

(12) nursing home administration;

(13) occupational therapy;

(14) optometry;

(15) osteopathy;

(16) pharmacy;

(17) physical therapy;

- (18) psychoanalysis;
- (19) psychology;
- (20) respiratory care;
- (21) social work;
- (22) speech language pathology; and
- (23) veterinary medicine.

(b) This chapter shall apply to the following health care professions regulated by the Board of Medical Practice:

- (1) physicians;
- (2) physician assistants; and
- (3) podiatrists.

§ 3052. DEFINITIONS

As used in this chapter:

- (1) “Board” means the Board of Medical Practice.
- (2) “Health care professional” means an individual who holds a valid license, certificate, or registration to provide health care services in any other U.S. jurisdiction in a health care profession listed in section 3051 of this chapter.
- (3) “Health care services” means services for the diagnosis, prevention, treatment, cure, or relief of a health condition, illness, injury, or disease.
- (4) “In good standing” means that a health care professional holds an active license, certificate, or registration from another U.S. jurisdiction; the health care professional is not subject to a disciplinary order that conditions, suspends, or otherwise restricts the professional’s practice in any other U.S. jurisdiction; and the health care professional is not affirmatively barred from practice in Vermont for any reason, including reasons of fraud or abuse, patient care, or public safety.
- (5) “Mandatory disclosure” means the information that the health care professional must disclose to the patient at the initial telehealth visit or consultation, as determined by the relevant regulatory body by rule.
- (6) “Office” means the Office of Professional Regulation.
- (7) “Store and forward” means an asynchronous transmission of medical information, such as one or more video clips, audio clips, still images, x-rays, magnetic resonance imaging scans, electrocardiograms,

electroencephalograms, or laboratory results, sent over a secure connection that complies with the requirements of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, Pub. L. No. 104-191 to be reviewed at a later date by a health care provider at a distant site who is trained in the relevant specialty. In store and forward, the health care provider at the distant site reviews the medical information without the patient present in real time and communicates a care plan or treatment recommendation back to the patient or referring provider, or both.

(8) “Telehealth” means health care services delivered by telemedicine, store and forward, or audio-only telephone.

(9) “Telemedicine” means the delivery of health care services such as diagnosis, consultation, or treatment through the use of live interactive audio and video over a secure connection that complies with the requirements of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, Pub. L. No. 104-191.

§ 3053. TELEHEALTH LICENSURE OR TELEHEALTH REGISTRATION REQUIRED

(a) A health care professional who is not otherwise licensed, certified, or registered to practice in Vermont but is licensed, certified, or registered in good standing in all other U.S. jurisdictions in which the health care professional is or has been licensed, certified, or registered and who wishes to provide health care services to a patient or client located in Vermont using telehealth shall obtain a telehealth license or telehealth registration from the Office or the Board in accordance with this chapter.

(b) A telehealth license or telehealth registration issued pursuant to this chapter shall authorize a health care professional to provide services to a patient or client located in Vermont using telehealth only. Telehealth licensure or telehealth registration does not authorize the health care professional to open an office in Vermont or to provide in-person health care services to patients or clients located in Vermont.

(c) A health care professional who is not otherwise licensed, certified, or registered to practice in Vermont and provides health care services in Vermont using telehealth without a telehealth registration or telehealth license, or provides services beyond the limitations of the telehealth registration or telehealth license, is engaged in unauthorized practice as defined in 3 V.S.A. § 127 and section 1314 of this title and is subject to the penalties set forth in those sections.

§ 3054. SCOPE OF TELEHEALTH LICENSE AND TELEHEALTH
REGISTRATION

(a) Telehealth license.

(1) A health care professional who is not otherwise licensed, certified, or registered to practice in Vermont may obtain a telehealth license to provide health care services using telehealth to a total of not more than 20 unique patients or clients located in Vermont during the two-year license term.

(2) To be eligible to obtain a telehealth license under this chapter, a health care professional shall:

(A) complete an application in a format and with such content as prescribed by the Office or the Board;

(B) hold an active, unencumbered license, certificate, or registration in good standing in any other U.S. jurisdiction to practice the health care profession that the professional seeks to practice in Vermont using telehealth and provide verification of the license, registration, or certificate to the Office or the Board if required by the profession;

(C) if required by the rules adopted by the Office or the Board pursuant to section 3061 of this chapter, submit a copy of a mandatory disclosure that conforms to the requirements established by rule;

(D) if required by the rules adopted by the Office or the Board pursuant section 3061 of this chapter, provide documentation of professional liability coverage or financial responsibility that includes coverage or financial responsibility for services provided by telehealth to patients or clients not located in the health care professional's home state in an amount established by rule;

(E) provide any other information and documentation of qualifications required by the Office or the Board by rule; and

(F) pay the required telehealth licensure fee, which shall be 75 percent of the renewal fee for the profession as set forth in 3 V.S.A. § 125 or in the applicable chapter of this title.

(3) A health care professional may renew a telehealth license every two years upon application and payment of the required fee. A license that has expired shall be reinstated upon payment of the biennial renewal fee and the late renewal penalty, which shall be 75 percent of the late renewal penalty established in 3 V.S.A. § 127 or in section 1401a of this title, as applicable.

(b) Telehealth registration.

(1) A health care professional who is not otherwise licensed, certified, or registered to practice in Vermont may obtain a telehealth registration to provide health care services using telehealth:

(A) for a period of not more than 120 consecutive days from the date the registration was issued; and

(B) to a total of not more than 10 unique patients or clients over the 120-day period that the registration is in effect.

(2) To be eligible to obtain a telehealth registration under this chapter, a health care professional shall:

(A) complete an application in a format and with such content as prescribed by the Office or the Board;

(B) hold an active, unencumbered license, certificate, or registration in good standing in any other U.S. jurisdiction to practice the health care profession that the professional seeks to practice in Vermont using telehealth and provide verification of the license, registration, or certificate to the Office or the Board if required by the profession;

(C) if required by the rules adopted by the Office or the Board pursuant to section 3061 of this chapter, submit a copy of a mandatory disclosure that conforms to the requirements established by rule; and

(D) pay the required telehealth registration fee, which shall be 50 percent of the renewal fee for the profession as set forth in 3 V.S.A. § 125 or in the applicable chapter of this title.

(3) A health care professional may only reactivate a telehealth registration once every three years. A telehealth registration shall not be renewed or reactivated upon expiration.

(c) Other license or registration. A health care professional seeking to provide health care services to a patient or client located in Vermont using telehealth may register or apply for a full license to practice the profession in this State in accordance with the applicable provisions of this title. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a qualified health care professional from registering or obtaining a full license to practice in Vermont in accordance with relevant laws.

§ 3055. SCOPE OF PRACTICE; STANDARD OF PRACTICE

(a) In order to be eligible for a telehealth license or telehealth registration under this chapter, a health care professional shall hold a license, certificate, or registration in another U.S. jurisdiction that authorizes the provider to engage in the same or a broader scope of practice as health care professionals in the

same field are authorized to engage pursuant to a license, certificate, or registration issued in accordance with the relevant provisions of this title.

(b) While practicing in Vermont using telehealth, a health care professional holding a telehealth license or telehealth registration issued pursuant to this chapter shall:

(1) practice within the scope of practice established in this title for that profession; and

(2) practice in a manner consistent with the prevailing and acceptable professional standard of practice for a health care professional who is licensed, certified, or registered in Vermont to provide in-person health care services in that health care profession.

§ 3056. RECORDS

A health care professional holding a telehealth license or telehealth registration issued pursuant to this chapter shall document in a patient's or client's medical record the health care services delivered using telehealth in accordance with the same standard used for in-person services and shall comply with the requirements of 18 V.S.A. §§ 9361 and 9362 to the extent applicable to the profession. Records, including video, audio, electronic, or other records generated as a result of delivering health care services using telehealth, are subject to all federal and Vermont laws regarding protected health information.

§ 3057. EFFECT OF DISCIPLINARY ACTION ON OUT-OF-STATE LICENSE, CERTIFICATE, OR REGISTRATION

(a) A health care professional shall not obtain a telehealth license or telehealth registration under this chapter if the health care professional's license, certificate, or registration to provide health care services has been revoked or is subject to a pending disciplinary investigation or action in any other U.S. jurisdiction.

(b) A health care professional holding a telehealth license or telehealth registration under this chapter shall notify the Office or the Board, as applicable, within five business days following a disciplinary action that places a warning, reprimand, condition, restriction, suspension, or any other disciplinary action on the professional's license, certificate, or registration in any other U.S. jurisdiction or of any other disciplinary action taken or pending against the health care professional in any other U.S. jurisdiction.

§ 3058. JURISDICTION; APPLICATION OF VERMONT LAWS

A health care professional holding a telehealth license or telehealth registration in accordance with this chapter is subject to the laws and jurisdiction of the State of Vermont, including 18 V.S.A. §§ 9361 and 9362 and laws regarding prescribing, health information sharing, informed consent, supervision and collaboration requirements, and unprofessional conduct.

§ 3059. EXEMPTIONS FROM REGISTRATION AND LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS

A health care professional is not required to obtain a telehealth registration or licensure solely to provide consultation services to another health care professional regarding care for a patient or client located in Vermont, provided the consulting health care professional holds a license, certificate, or registration to practice the profession in one or more U.S. jurisdictions and the consultation is based on a review of records without in-person or remote contact between the consulting health care professional and the patient or client.

§ 3060. VENUE

Venue for a civil action initiated by the Office, the Board, or a patient or client who has received telehealth services in Vermont from an out-of-state health care professional holding a telehealth license or telehealth registration shall be in the patient's or client's county of residence or in Washington County.

§ 3061. RULEMAKING

The Office or the Board may adopt rules in accordance with 3 V.S.A. chapter 25 to carry out the purposes of this chapter, including, in consultation with the appropriate boards and advisor appointees for professions regulated by the Office, rules regarding any profession-specific requirements related to telehealth licenses and telehealth registrations.

* * * Provisional Licensure for Professions Regulated by
Office of Professional Regulation * * *

Sec. 2. 3 V.S.A. § 130 is added to read:

§ 130. PROVISIONAL LICENSURE

(a) The Director may issue a 90-day provisional license to an individual who has completed an application for full licensure and:

(1) whose eligibility for licensure is contingent upon acceptable verification of licensure from another jurisdiction;

(2) whose eligibility for licensure is contingent upon completion of a background check; or

(3) who is an active-duty member of the U.S. Armed Forces assigned to duty in Vermont or the spouse of such a member.

(b) A provisional license shall be based on a voluntary agreement between the applicant and the Office to expedite the applicant's entry into the workforce, in which the applicant agrees to forgo the procedural rights associated with traditional licensure in exchange for a provisional license pending final determination of the license application.

(c) A provisional license shall only be issued to an applicant who can attest to material facts consistent with the requirements of full licensure, including the applicant's standing in other U.S. jurisdictions, criminal history, and disciplinary history. An individual to whom a provisional license is issued shall expressly agree that the Office may summarily withdraw the provisional license upon discovery of any inconsistency or inaccuracy in the application materials.

(d) An individual aggrieved by a denial or summary withdrawal of a provisional license issued under this section shall have as an exclusive remedy the right to have the individual's application for conventional licensure determined according to the usual process.

(e) The Director may extend a provisional license beyond the initial 90-day period if the reason for issuing the license, as set forth in subdivisions (a)(1)–(3) of this section, has not been resolved.

* * * Effective Dates * * *

Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATES

(a) Sec. 1 (26 V.S.A. chapter 56) shall take effect on July 1, 2023, except that the Office and the Board shall commence the rulemaking process prior to that date in order to have rules in place on July 1, 2023.

(b) Sec. 2 (3 V.S.A. § 130) and this section shall take effect on passage.

and that after passage the title of the bill be amended to read: “An act relating to telehealth licensure and registration and to provisional licensure for professions regulated by the Office of Professional Regulation”

(Committee Vote: 10-0-1)

Senate Proposal of Amendment to House Proposal of Amendment

S. 30

An act relating to prohibiting possession of firearms within hospital buildings

The Senate concurs in the House proposal of amendment with further amendment thereto as follows::

In Sec. 2, 13 V.S.A. § 4019, by striking out subsection (d) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new subsection (d) to read as follows:

(d) A person shall not transfer a firearm to another person if:

(1) the transfer requires a background check under this section or under federal law; and

(2) the licensed dealer facilitating the transfer has not been provided with a unique identification number for the transfer by the National Instant Criminal Background Check System.

(For House Proposal of Amendment see House Journal January 27, 2022)

For Informational Purposes

Crossover Deadline

(1) All **Senate/House** bills must be reported out of the last committee of reference (including the Committees on Appropriations and on Finance/Ways and Means, except as provided below in (2) and the exceptions listed below) on or before **Friday, March 11, 2022**, and filed with the Secretary/Clerk so they may be placed on the Calendar for Notice the next legislative day – Committee bills must be voted out of Committee by **Friday, March 11, 2022**.

(2) All **Senate/House** bills referred pursuant to Senate Rule 31 or House Rule 35(a) to the Committees on Appropriations and on Finance/Ways and Means must be reported out by the last of those committees on or before **Friday, March 18, 2022**, and filed with the Secretary/Clerk so they may be placed on the Calendar for Notice the next legislative day.

Exceptions to the foregoing deadlines include the major money bills (the general Appropriations bill (“The Big Bill”), the Transportation capital bill, the Capital Construction bill, and the Fee/Revenue bills).

Public Hearings

PUBLIC HEARING

Public Hearings on the Governor's recommended Fiscal Year 2023 State budget

Joint House and Senate Committees on Appropriations

Tuesday, February 8, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. and Wednesday, February 9, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. – The Vermont House and Senate Committees on Appropriations are seeking public and advocate input on the Governor's recommended FY 2023 State budget and will hold two public hearings via videoconference.

Anyone interested in testifying should **sign-up in advance of the hearings through ONE of the online forms no later than 5:00 p.m. on February 7, 2022**. Instructions on how to access and participate in the hearing will be sent once you have signed up for one of the hearings. Time limits for testimony may apply depending on volume of participants.

Link to **form to sign-up for February 8, 2022:**

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/links/fy22-budget-adjustment-hearing-feb-8>

Link to **form to sign-up for February 9, 2022:**

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/links/fy22-budget-adjustment-hearing-feb-9>

Both hearings will be available to watch live on YouTube at the following link: <https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/streaming/vermont-joint-fiscal> or your local access community cable channel. You can find your local channel at the following link: <https://vermontaccess.net/amo/>

For more information about the format of these events, contact Chrissy Gilhuly at

cgilhuly@leg.state.vt.us or Theresa Utton-Jerman at tutton@leg.state.vt.us or call 802-828-2295 or toll-free within Vermont at 1-800-322-5616 (responses to phone calls may be delayed). Written testimony is encouraged and can be submitted electronically to Chrissy or Theresa through e-mail or mailed to the House and Senate Committee on Appropriations, c/o Joint Fiscal Office, 1 Baldwin Street, Montpelier, VT 05633-5701.

Joint Assembly

February 17, 2022 - 10:30 a.m. – Election of two (2) trustees for the Vermont State Colleges Corporation.

Candidates for the positions of trustee must notify the Secretary of State **in writing** not later than February 10, 2022 , by 4:30 P.M. pursuant to the provisions of 2 V.S.A. §12(b). Otherwise their names will not appear on the ballots for these positions.

The following rules shall apply to the conduct of these elections:

First: All nominations for these offices will be presented in alphabetical order prior to voting.

Second: There will be only one nominating speech of not more than three (3) minutes and not more than two seconding speeches of not more than one (1) minute each for each nominee.