

House Calendar

Tuesday, April 12, 2022

99th DAY OF THE ADJOURNED SESSION

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ACTION CALENDAR

Third Reading

S. 72

An act relating to the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children

S. 265

An act relating to expanding criminal threatening to include threats to third persons

Favorable with Amendment

H. 741

An act relating to approval of amendments to the charter of the City of St. Albans

Rep. McCarthy of St. Albans City, for the Committee on Government Operations, recommends the bill be amended as follows:

That the bill be amended in Sec. 3, effective date, immediately following the words "shall take effect on" by striking out "July 1, 2022" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "on passage" before the period.

(Committee Vote: 11-0-0)

S. 171

An act relating to adoption of a State code of ethics

Rep. Gannon of Wilmington, for the Committee on Government Operations, recommends that the House propose to the Senate that the bill be amended as follows:

First: In Sec. 1, 3 V.S.A. chapter 31, subchapter 1, by striking out section 1205 in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new section 1205 to read as follows:

§ 1205. MANDATORY CODE OF ETHICS EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Within the first 120 days of public service, a public servant shall engage in State Code of Ethics training, which may be in person or online. Completion of State Code of Ethics training shall be documented by the department where the public servant is employed. A public servant shall participate in

continuing State Code of Ethics education, which may be in person or online, at least once every three years thereafter. Approved continuing State Code of Ethics education providers are the State Ethics Commission, the Department of Human Resources – Center for Achievement in Public Service (CAPS), the Vermont House of Representatives Ethics Panel for the House of Representatives, the Vermont Senate Ethics Panel for the Senate, the Vermont Supreme Court and the Court Administrator’s Office for the Vermont Judiciary, and any education providers approved by the State Ethics Commission. Copies of State Code of Ethics training materials by ethics education providers shall be provided to the State Ethics Commission in advance of the training. On request, the State Ethics Commission may collaborate with or assist State Code of Ethics education providers.

Second: By adding a new section to be Sec. 2a to read as follows:

Sec. 2a. 3 V.S.A. § 1226 is amended to read:

§ 1226. COMMISSION REPORTS

Annually, on or before January 15, the Commission shall report to the General Assembly regarding the following issues:

(1) Complaints. The number and a summary of the complaints made to it, separating the complaints by topic, and the disposition of those complaints, including any prosecution, enforcement action, or dismissal. This summary of complaints shall not include any personal identifying information.

(2) Guidance and training.

(A) Guidance. The number of requests for and a summary of the guidance the Executive Director provided, separating the guidance by topic. This summary of guidance shall not include any personal identifying information.

(B) Training. An estimate of the number of Code of Ethics trainings conducted by each branch of government, a summary of the training activities undertaken by the Ethics Commission, and a summary of any recommendations the Commission or the Executive Director made to any branch of State government regarding additional training or more in-depth training for particular provisions of the Code of Ethics.

(3) Recommendations. Any recommendations for legislative action to address State governmental ethics or provisions of campaign finance law.

Third: In Sec. 1, 3 V.S.A. chapter 31, subchapter 1, in section 1203g, in subsection (a), by striking out subdivision (7) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new subdivision (7) to read as follows:

(7) Admission fees and tickets. A public servant may accept free attendance to a widely attended charitable, cultural, political, or civic event at which a public servant participates in the public servant's official capacity, provided such tickets or admission is provided by the primary sponsoring entity. Free attendance may include all or part of the cost of admission; transportation to and from the event; and food, refreshments, entertainment, and instructional materials provided to all event attendees.

(Committee vote:11-0-0)

(For text see Senate Journal March 17, 2022)

NOTICE CALENDAR

Favorable

S. 74

An act relating to modifications to Vermont's patient choice at end of life laws

Rep. Pugh of South Burlington, for the Committee on Human Services, recommends that the bill ought to pass in concurrence.

(Committee Vote:10-1-0)

S. 247

An act relating to prohibiting discrimination based on genetic information

Rep. Cordes of Lincoln, for the Committee on Health Care, recommends that the bill ought to pass in concurrence.

(Committee Vote:7-1-3)

Action Postponed Until April 20, 2022

Governor's Veto

H. 157

An act relating to registration of construction contractors.

For text of Veto Message please see House Journal of February 10, 2022

Action Postponed Until May 17, 2022

Governor's Veto

S. 30

An act relating to prohibiting possession of firearms within hospital buildings.

For text of Veto Message, please see Senate Journal of March 11, 2022

For Informational Purposes

Grants and Positions that have been submitted to the Joint Fiscal Committee by the Administration, under 32 V.S.A. §5(b)(3)(D):

JFO #3092 - \$420,000 to the VT Agency of Natural Resources, Dept of Environmental Conservation from the Environmental Protection Agency. The grant is for improved drinking water in underserved areas and will support construction of replacement drinking water infrastructure for the town of Milton's Mobile Home Cooperative.

[Received March 23, 2022]

JFO #3093 - \$1,000,000.00 to the VT Agency of Commerce and Community Development from the U.S. Economic Development Administration. Funds for the use of Statewide Economic Recovery Planning.

[Received March 23, 2022]

JFO #3094 – 11 (eleven) limited-service positions to the VT Agency of Human Services, Dept for Children and Families, to administer and support emergency and transitional housing programs. Positions funded through previously approved grant [#3034](#) (U.S. Emergency Assistance Rental Program) and funded through 9/30/2025.

[Received 3/23/2022, expedited review approved on 3/29/2022]

JFO #3095 - \$1,859,890 to the VT Department of Public Safety from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Funding for flooding that occurred in Bennington and Windham counties between 7/29/21 and 7/30/21.

[Received March 23, 2022]