

Senate Calendar

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2021

SENATE CONVENES AT: 11:30 A.M.

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NOTICE CALENDAR

Committee Bills for Second Reading

S. 86.

An act relating to miscellaneous changes to laws related to vehicles and vessels.

By the Committee on Transportation. (Senator Ingalls for the Committee.)

S. 87.

An act relating to emergency provisions for the operation of government.

By the Committee on Government Operations. (Senator Collamore for the Committee.)

House Proposal of Amendment to Senate Proposal of Amendment

H. 138

An act relating to fiscal year 2021 budget adjustments

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

First: By striking out Sec. 57, body camera deployment, in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec. 57 to read as follows:

Sec. 57. BODY CAMERA DEPLOYMENT

The Departments of Fish and Wildlife, of Liquor Control, of Motor Vehicles shall only deploy the use of body cameras after appropriate training of staff and the adoptions of policies on use and retention of records. The departments shall identify the on-going cost and funding source for training, data storage and redaction and report these findings to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on or before March 15, 2021. The Secretary of Administration shall provide a report to the Joint Fiscal and the Joint Justice Oversight Committees in September 2021 on the status of use of body cameras in these departments.

Second: By striking out Sec. 59, effective dates, in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 59. 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 154, Sec. B.1122 is amended to read:

Sec. B.1122 VERMONT CORONAVIRUS ECONOMIC STIMULUS
EQUITY PROGRAM

* * *

(b) Establishment of Program; eligibility; maximum award.

(1) On or before November 15, 2020, the Agency of Administration shall establish the Vermont Coronavirus Economic Stimulus Equity Program to award direct relief grant payments to eligible adults and eligible children.

(2) In order to receive payment under the Program, an eligible adult shall certify that he or she:

(A) is a resident of Vermont;

(B) was ineligible to receive an economic impact payment under the CARES Act due to reasons of immigration status; and

(C) had an adjusted gross income of less than \$99,000.00 in taxable year 2019 or, if filing jointly, an adjusted gross income of less than \$198,000.00 in taxable year 2019.

(3) Each eligible adult shall receive \$1,200.00 and \$500.00 for each eligible child, provided that an eligible adult shall not receive an award for an eligible child if another applicant received an award for that child.

(4) Each award issued under this section shall be issued as a direct payment from the State of Vermont.

(5) All applications for a payment under this section shall be submitted on or before ~~March 1~~, May 1, 2021.

* * *

Sec. 60. 32 V.S.A. § 3102 is amended to read as follows:

§ 3102. CONFIDENTIALITY OF TAX RECORDS

* * *

(e) The Commissioner may, in his or her discretion and subject to such conditions and requirements as he or she may provide, including any confidentiality requirements of the Internal Revenue Service, disclose a return or return information:

* * *

(8) To the Commissioner of Labor for the purpose of establishing the identity or liability of employers for unemployment compensation, for the purpose of verifying the earnings of individuals in order to determine the amount of Pandemic Unemployment Assistance they are eligible to receive, and for the purpose of verifying and correcting personally identifiable information necessary for the creation and issuance of tax documents to individuals who received benefits through unemployment insurance and related federal and State benefit programs administered by the Department of Labor.

* * *

Sec. 61. 32 V.S.A. § 3102(e)(8) is amended to read:

(8) To the Commissioner of Labor for the purpose of establishing the identity or liability of employers for unemployment compensation, and for the purpose of verifying the earnings of individuals in order to determine the amount of Pandemic Unemployment Assistance they are eligible to receive, ~~and for the purpose of verifying and correcting personally identifiable information necessary for the creation and issuance of tax documents to individuals who received benefits through unemployment insurance and related federal and State benefit programs administered by the Department of Labor.~~

Sec. 62. 32 V.S.A. § 3102(e)(8) is amended to read:

(8) To the Commissioner of Labor for the purpose of establishing the identity or liability of employers for unemployment compensation ~~and for the purpose of verifying the earnings of individuals in order to determine the amount of Pandemic Unemployment Assistance they are eligible to receive.~~

Sec. 63. USE OF FORCE TRAINING

Funds appropriated to the Department of Public Safety for use of force training pursuant to Act 165 of 2020 that are not expended in fiscal year 2021 shall carry forward to fiscal year 2022 and shall only be used for training in accordance with the standards for law enforcement use of force policy that is in place on July 1, 2021.

Sec. 64. EFFECTIVE DATES

(a) Notwithstanding 1 V.S.A. § 214:

(1) Sec. 50(e)(1) (extraordinary relief to long-term care facilities) shall take effect retroactively on November 1, 2020;

(2) Secs. 50(e)(2) (adult day programs) and 49 (judicial filing fees) shall take effect retroactively on December 1, 2020;

(3) Sec. 50(e)(3) (transfer authority) shall take effect retroactively on July 1, 2020;

(4) Secs. 47 (broadband access) and 54 (hazard pay reports) shall take effect retroactively on December 15, 2020; and

(5) Sec. 60 (32 V.S.A. § 3102) shall take effect on passage and shall apply retroactively to January 15, 2021.

(b) Sec. 61 (32 V.S.A. § 3102 (e)(8)) shall take effect on July 1, 2021.

(c) Sec. 62 (32 V.S.A. § 3102 (e)(8)) shall take effect on July 1, 2022.

(d) The remaining sections shall take effect on passage.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS FOR ACTION

Concurrent Resolutions For Action Under Joint Rule 16

The following joint concurrent resolutions have been introduced for approval by the Senate and House. They will be adopted by the Senate unless a Senator requests floor consideration before the end of the session. Requests for floor consideration should be communicated to the Secretary's Office.

H.C.R. 18 - 19 (For text of Resolutions, see Addendum to House Calendar for February 18, 2021)

NOTICE OF JOINT ASSEMBLY

February 25, 2021 - 2:00 p.m. – House Chamber - Pursuant to J.R.S. 13 - Election of three (3) trustees for the University of Vermont and State Agricultural College.

Ballots must be received by Noon, Thursday, February 25, 2021.

JFO NOTICE

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

JFO #3030 - \$450,000 to the VT Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living from the Kessler Foundation. Funds will be used to support the expansion or re-designation of current positions in the Department and to create three (3) limited service positions to assist Social Security Disability Insurance and Supplemental Security Income beneficiaries to transition to self-sustaining employment. The request includes one (1) Vocational Rehabilitation Benefits Counselor and two (2) Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor II to complete the work. *Kessler grant funds will support 70% of the VR Benefit Counselor position and 21% of the VR*

Counselor II positions. The remaining balance will be covered by VR federal funds.

[JFO received 1/25/2021]

JFO #3031 - \$450,000 to the Department of Public Safety from the Office of Justice Programs for the services and support for victims in the immediate aftermath and during the investigation of a crime. The grant will fully fund one (1) limited-service position, Victim Services Specialist, to provide these services through 9/30/2023 and will also cover \$15,417 in indirect departmental costs.

[JFO received 1/25/2021]

JFO #3032 - \$206,394 to the VT Dept. of Environmental Conservation from the United States Climate Alliance, United Nations Fund, for one (1) limited service position, Environmental Analyst VII, to serve in a leadership role in advancing Vermont's climate mitigation priorities. Position to be funded through 9/30/22.

[JFO received 1/25/2021]

JFO #3033 - One (1) limited service position, Criminal Intelligence Analyst, to the VT. Dept of Public Safety to support information sharing and analysis to prevent and prepare for hazards and threats. Funds from the US Dept. of Homeland Security from previously awarded JFO Grant #2212.

[JFO received 1/27/2021]

JFO #3034 - \$200,000,000 to the VT Agency of Administration from the US Dept. of the Treasury, Emergency Rental Assistance Program. The funds will be used to assist eligible households that have difficulty making timely payments of rent and utilities due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Included in the funding are five (5) limited service positions to administer this sizable grant program.

[JFO received 2/3/2021]

JFO #3035 - \$550,749 to the VT Agency of Human Services from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention to enhance and coordinate healthy aging efforts within the 'Healthy Brain Initiative' framework. Funds will be used to develop systemic public health approaches to improve the public health approach to Alzheimer's and related dementias and decrease preventable hospitalizations among Vermonters 65 and older with Alzheimer's and related dementias. Two (2) limited service positions: One (1) Public Health Program Administrator and one (1) Public Health Analyst II to administer the program.

[JFO received 2/4/2021]

JFO #3036 - \$3,800,000 to the VT Dept of Health from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention to increase and sustain the public health approach to suicide prevention. This grant includes funding for three (3) limited service positions. Two (2) positions in the Dept of Health: Public Health Programs Administrator and Public Health Analyst II. One (1) position in the Dept of Mental Health: Marketing and Outreach Coordinator. Grant amount is \$760,000 per year for 5 years.

[JFO received 2/16/2021]

JFO #3037 - \$135,000 to the VT Dept of Mental Health from Vibrant Emotional Health for the development of the 988-implementation plan to ensure compliance with the federal mandate for universal access to suicide and prevention services by July 16, 2022. *[Note: One (1) limited service position is included within JFO #3036].*

[JFO received 2/16/2021]

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

CROSSOVER DATES

The Joint Rules Committee established the following Crossover deadlines:

(1) All **Senate/House** bills must be reported out of the last committee of reference (including the Committees on Appropriations and Finance/Ways and Means, except as provided below in (2) and the exceptions listed below) on or before **Friday, March 12, 2021**, 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 12, 2021.

(2) All **Senate/House** bills referred pursuant to Senate Rule 31 or House Rule 35(a) to the Committees on Appropriations and Finance/Ways and Means must be reported out by the last of those committees on or before **Friday, March 19, 2021**, and filed with the Secretary/Clerk so they may be placed on the Calendar for Notice the next legislative day.

Note: The Senate will not act on bills that do not meet these crossover deadlines, without the consent of the Senate Rules Committee.

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.