

# Senate Calendar

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, 2021

SENATE CONVENES AT: 1:00 P.M.

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**ACTION CALENDAR**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS OF TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 2021**

**House Proposal of Amendment**

**S. 18**

An act relating to limiting earned good time sentence reductions for offenders convicted of certain crimes.

The House proposes to the Senate to amend the bill by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 13 V.S.A. § 5321 is amended to read:

§ 5321. APPEARANCE BY VICTIM

\* \* \*

(d) At or before the sentencing hearing, the prosecutor's office shall instruct the victim of a listed crime, in all cases where the court imposes a sentence that includes a period of incarceration, that a sentence of incarceration is to the custody of the Commissioner of Corrections and that the Commissioner of Corrections has the authority to affect the actual time the defendant shall serve in incarceration through ~~good~~ earned time credit, furlough, work-release, and other early release programs. In addition, the prosecutor's office shall explain the significance of a minimum and maximum sentence to the victim ~~and shall also~~, explain the function of parole and how it may affect the actual amount of time the defendant may be incarcerated, and inform the victim of the maximum amount of earned time that the defendant could accrue and that earned time only affects when a defendant is eligible for parole consideration but does not necessarily result in the defendant's release.

\* \* \*

Sec. 2. 28 V.S.A. § 818 is amended to read:

§ 818. EARNED ~~GOOD~~ TIME; REDUCTION OF TERM

(a) On or before September 1, 2020, the Department of Corrections shall file a proposed rule pursuant to 3 V.S.A. chapter 25 implementing an earned ~~good~~ time program to become effective on January 1, 2021. The Commissioner shall adopt rules to carry out the provisions of this section as an emergency rule and concurrently propose them as a permanent rule. The emergency rule shall be deemed to meet the standard for the adoption of emergency rules pursuant to 3 V.S.A. § 844(a).

(b) The earned ~~good~~ time program implemented pursuant to this section shall comply with the following standards:

(1) The program shall be available for all sentenced offenders, including furloughed offenders, provided that the program shall not be available to offenders on probation or parole, to offenders eligible for a reduction of term pursuant to section 811 of this title, to offenders sentenced to serve an interrupted sentence, or to offenders sentenced to life without parole. Offenders currently serving a sentence shall be eligible to begin earning a reduction in term when the earned ~~good~~ time program becomes effective. Notwithstanding this subdivision (1), when an offender has been convicted of a disqualifying offense, the offender's ability to participate and earn time in the program shall be determined pursuant to subdivision (5) of this subsection.

(2) Offenders shall earn a reduction of seven days in the minimum and maximum sentence for each month during which the offender:

(A) is not adjudicated of a major disciplinary rule violation; and

(B) is not reincarcerated from the community for a violation of release conditions, provided that an offender who loses a residence for a reason other than fault on the part of the offender shall not be deemed reincarcerated under this subdivision.

(3) An offender who receives post-adjudication treatment in a residential setting for a substance use disorder shall earn a reduction of one day in the minimum and maximum sentence for each day that the offender receives the inpatient treatment. While a person is in residential substance abuse treatment, he or she shall not be eligible for ~~good~~ earned time except as provided in this subsection.

(4) The Department shall:

(A) ensure that all victims of record are notified of the earned ~~good~~ time program at its outset and made aware of the option to receive notifications from the Department pursuant to this subdivision;

(B) provide timely notice not less frequently than every 90 days to the offender any time the offender receives a reduction in his or her term of supervision pursuant to this section;

(C) maintain a system that documents and records all such reductions in each offender's permanent record; and

(D) record any reduction in an offender's term of supervision pursuant to this section on a monthly basis and ensure that victims who want information regarding changes in scheduled release dates have access to such information.

(5) Notwithstanding 1 V.S.A. § 214, an offender who was serving a sentence for a disqualifying offense on January 1, 2021 shall not earn any earned time sentence reductions under this section after the effective date of this act. This subdivision (5) shall not be construed to limit or affect earned time that an offender has earned on or before the effective date of this act.

(c) As used in this section:

(1) "Disqualifying offense" means:

(A) murder in violation of 13 V.S.A. § 2301;

(B) voluntary manslaughter in violation of 13 V.S.A. § 2304;

(C) kidnapping in violation of 13 V.S.A. § 2405;

(D) lewd and lascivious conduct with a child in violation of 13 V.S.A. § 2602, provided that the offense shall not be considered a disqualifying offense if the offender is under 18 years of age, the child is at least 12 years of age, and the conduct is consensual;

(E) sexual assault in violation of 13 V.S.A. § 3252(a) or (b);

(F) aggravated sexual assault in violation of 13 V.S.A. § 3253; or

(G) aggravated sexual assault of a child in violation of 13 V.S.A. § 3253a.

(2) "Interrupted sentence" means a sentence that is not served continuously, including a sentence to be served in intervals or a sentence to the work crew.

### Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on passage.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Third Reading**

#### **S. 135.**

An act relating to separating the individual and small group health insurance markets for plan year 2022.

**H. 151.**

An act relating to vital records, mausoleums and columbaria, and emergency health orders.

**Second Reading**

**Favorable**

**H. 154.**

An act relating to the failure of municipal officers to accept office.

**Reported favorably by Senator Collamore for the Committee on Government Operations.**

(Committee vote: 5-0-0)

(For House amendments, see House Journal of March 17, 2021, page 369)

**Senate Resolution For Action**

**S.R. 9.**

Senate resolution relating to extending concurrently conducted electronic session and committee meetings.

**PENDING QUESTION:** Shall the resolution be adopted?

**Text of the Resolution:**

**S.R. 9.** Senate resolution relating to extending concurrently conducted electronic session and committee meetings.

*Whereas*, it is critical to take steps to control outbreaks of COVID-19 to minimize the risk to the public, maintain the health and safety of Vermonters and limit the spread of infection in our community;

*Whereas*, the Governor of the State of Vermont issued a Declaration of State of Emergency in Response to COVID-19;

*Whereas*, Permanent Senate Rule 9A permits the Rules Committee to authorize sessions of the Senate during a declared emergency be concurrently conducted electronically; and

*Whereas*, Permanent Senate Rule 32A permits the Rules Committee to authorize committee meetings during a declared emergency be concurrently conducted electronically; and

*Whereas*, Governor Phillip B. Scott declared state of emergency currently expires at midnight on April 15, 2021;

*Whereas, it may be necessary for sessions of the Senate and committees of the Senate to continue with concurrently conducted electronic sessions and committee meetings subsequent to the expiration of the Governor's declared emergency; now therefore be it*

***Resolved by the Senate:***

Notwithstanding the language in Permanent Senate Rules 9A and 32A regarding their applicability during Declarations of Emergency, the provisions of Permanent Senate Rules 9A and 32A regarding Senate sessions and committee meetings shall remain in effect until the later of: (1) the termination of the Governor's Declaration of State of Emergency in Response to COVID-19 or January 7, 2022.

**NOTICE CALENDAR**

**Second Reading**

**Favorable with Proposal of Amendment**

**H. 135.**

An act relating to the State Ethics Commission.

**Reported favorably with recommendation of proposal of amendment by Senator Pollina for the Committee on Government Operations.**

The Committee recommends that the Senate propose to the House to amend the bill by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 3 V.S.A. chapter 31 is amended to read:

**CHAPTER 31. GOVERNMENTAL ETHICS**

\* \* \*

**Subchapter 2. Disclosures**

**§ 1211. EXECUTIVE OFFICERS; ~~BIENNIAL~~ ANNUAL DISCLOSURE**

(a) ~~Biennially~~ Annually, each Executive officer shall file with the State Ethics Commission a disclosure form that contains the following information in regard to the previous ~~calendar year~~ 12 months:

(1) Each source, but not amount, of personal income of the officer and of his or her spouse or domestic partner, and of the officer together with his or her spouse or domestic partner, that totals more than \$5,000.00, including any of the sources meeting that total described as follows:

(A) employment, including the employer or business name and address and, if self-employed, a description of the nature of the self-employment without needing to disclose any individual clients; and

(B) investments, described generally as “investment income.”

(2) Any board, commission, or other entity that is regulated by law or that receives funding from the State on which the officer served and the officer’s position on that entity.

(3) Any company of which the officer or his or her spouse or domestic partner, or the officer together with his or her spouse or domestic partner, owned more than 10 percent.

(4) Any lease or contract with the State held or entered into by:

(A) the officer or his or her spouse or domestic partner; or

(B) a company of which the officer or his or her spouse or domestic partner, or the officer together with his or her spouse or domestic partner, owned more than 10 percent.

(b) In addition, if an Executive officer’s spouse or domestic partner is a lobbyist, the officer shall disclose that fact and provide the name of his or her spouse or domestic partner and, if applicable, the name of his or her lobbying firm.

(c)(1) Disclosure forms shall contain the statement, “I certify that the information provided on all pages of this disclosure form is true to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.”

(2) Each Executive officer shall sign his or her disclosure form in order to certify it in accordance with this subsection.

(d)(1) An officer shall file his or her disclosure on or before January 15 of the odd-numbered each year or, if he or she is appointed after January 15, within 10 days after that appointment.

(2) An officer who filed this disclosure form as a candidate in accordance with 17 V.S.A. § 2414 in the preceding year and whose disclosure information has not changed since that filing may update that filing to indicate that there has been no change.

~~(d)~~(e) As used in this section:

(1) “Domestic partner” means an individual with whom the Executive officer has an enduring domestic relationship of a spousal nature, as long as the officer and the domestic partner:



- (A) have shared a residence for at least six consecutive months;
- (B) are at least 18 years of age;
- (C) are not married to or considered a domestic partner of another individual;
- (D) are not related by blood closer than would bar marriage under State law; and
- (E) have agreed between themselves to be responsible for each other's welfare.

(2) "Lobbyist" and "lobbying firm" shall have the same meanings as in 2 V.S.A. § 261.

§ 1212. COMMISSION MEMBERS AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR;  
~~BIENNIAL~~ ANNUAL DISCLOSURE

(a) ~~Biennially~~ Annually, each member of the Commission and the Executive Director of the Commission shall file with the Executive Director a disclosure form that meets the requirements of and contains the information that Executive officers are required to disclose under section 1211 of this subchapter.

(b) A member and the Executive Director shall file their disclosures on or before January 15 of ~~the first~~ each year ~~of their appointments~~ or, if the member or Executive Director is appointed after January 15, within 10 days after that appointment, ~~and shall file subsequent disclosures biennially thereafter.~~

§ 1213. DISCLOSURES; GENERALLY

(a) The Executive Director of the Commission shall prepare on behalf of the Commission any disclosure form required to be filed with it and the candidate disclosure form described in 17 V.S.A. § 2414, and shall make ~~those~~ forms to be filed with the Commission available on the Commission's website.

(b) The Executive Director shall post on the Commission's website a copy of any disclosure form the Commission receives.

Subchapter 3. State Ethics Commission

§ 1221. STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

(a) Creation. There is created within the Executive Branch an independent commission named the State Ethics Commission to accept, review, make referrals regarding, and track complaints of alleged violations of governmental conduct regulated by law, of the Department of Human Resources ~~Code of Ethics~~ Personnel Policy and Procedure Manual, and of the State's campaign

finance law set forth in 17 V.S.A. chapter 61; to provide ethics training; and to issue guidance and advisory opinions regarding ethical conduct.

(b) Membership.

(1) The Commission shall be composed of the following five members:

(A) one member appointed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court;

(B) one member appointed by the League of Women Voters of Vermont, who shall be a member of the League;

(C) one member appointed by the Board of Directors of the Vermont Society of Certified Public Accountants, who shall be a member of the Society;

(D) one member appointed by the Board of Managers of the Vermont Bar Association, who shall be a member of the Association; and

(E) one member appointed by the Board of Directors of the SHRM (Society of Human Resource Management) Vermont Human Resource Association State Council, who shall be a member of the Association Council.

(2) The Commission shall elect the Chair of the Commission from among its membership.

(3) A member shall not:

(A) hold any office in the Legislative, Executive, or Judicial Branch of State government or otherwise be employed by the State;

(B) hold or enter into any lease or contract with the State, or have a controlling interest in a company that holds or enters into a lease or contract with the State;

(C) be a lobbyist;

(D) be a candidate for State ~~or~~, legislative, or elected judicial office;  
or

(E) hold any office in a State ~~or~~, legislative, or elected judicial office candidate's committee, a political committee, or a political party.

(4) A member may be removed for cause by the remaining members of the Commission in accordance with the Vermont Administrative Procedure Act.

(5)(A) A member shall serve a term of ~~three~~ five years and until a successor is appointed. A term shall begin on January 1 of the year of appointment and run through December 31 of the last year of the term. Terms of members shall be staggered so that ~~not all~~ no two terms expire at the same time.

(B) A vacancy created before the expiration of a term shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment for the unexpired portion of the term.

(C) A member shall not serve more than two consecutive terms. A member appointed to fill a vacancy created before the expiration of a term shall not be deemed to have served a term for the purpose of this subdivision (C).

(c) Executive Director.

(1) The Commission shall be staffed by an Executive Director who shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Commission and who shall be a part-time exempt State employee.

(2) The Executive Director shall maintain the records of the Commission and shall provide administrative support as requested by the Commission, in addition to any other duties required by this chapter.

(d) Confidentiality. The Commission and the Executive Director shall maintain the confidentiality required by this chapter.

(e) Meetings. Meetings of the Commission:

(1) shall be held at least quarterly for the purpose of the Executive Director updating the Commission on his or her work;

(2) may be called by the Chair and shall be called upon the request of any other two Commission members; and

(3) shall be conducted in accordance with 1 V.S.A. § 172.

(f) Reimbursement. Each member of the Commission shall be entitled to per diem compensation and reimbursement of expenses pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 1010.

\* \* \*

## § 1223. PROCEDURE FOR HANDLING COMPLAINTS

(a) Accepting complaints.

(1) On behalf of the Commission, the Executive Director shall accept complaints from any source regarding governmental ethics in any of the three branches of State government or of the State's campaign finance law set forth in 17 V.S.A. chapter 61.

(2) Complaints shall be in writing and shall include the identity of the complainant.

(b) Preliminary review by Executive Director. The Executive Director shall conduct a preliminary review of complaints made to the Commission in order to take action as set forth in this subsection, which shall include referring complaints to all relevant entities.

(1) Governmental conduct regulated by law.

(A) If the complaint alleges a violation of governmental conduct regulated by law, the Executive Director shall refer the complaint to the Attorney General or to the State's Attorney of jurisdiction, as appropriate.

(B) The Attorney General or State's Attorney shall file a report with the Executive Director regarding his or her decision as to whether to bring an enforcement action as a result of a complaint referred under subdivision (A) of this subdivision (1) within 10 days of that decision.

(2) Department of Human Resources, ~~Code of Ethics~~ Personnel Policy and Procedure Manual.

(A) If the complaint alleges a violation of the Department of Human Resources, ~~Code of Ethics~~ Personnel Policy and Procedure Manual, the Executive Director shall refer the complaint to the Commissioner of Human Resources.

(B) The Commissioner shall report back to the Executive Director regarding the final disposition of a complaint referred under subdivision (A) of this subdivision (2) within 10 days of that final disposition.

(3) Campaign finance.

(A) If the complaint alleges a violation of campaign finance law, the Executive Director shall refer the complaint to the Attorney General or to the State's Attorney of jurisdiction, as appropriate.

(B) The Attorney General or State's Attorney shall file a report with the Executive Director regarding his or her decision as to whether to bring an enforcement action as a result of a complaint referred under subdivision (A) of this subdivision (3) as set forth in 17 V.S.A. § 2904a.

(4) Legislative and Judicial Branches; attorneys.

(A) If the complaint is in regard to conduct committed by a State Senator, the Executive Director shall refer the complaint to the Senate Ethics Panel and shall request a report back from the Panel regarding the final disposition of the complaint.

(B) If the complaint is in regard to conduct committed by a State Representative, the Executive Director shall refer the complaint to the House Ethics Panel and shall request a report back from the Panel regarding the final disposition of the complaint.

(C) If the complaint is in regard to conduct committed by a judicial officer, the Executive Director shall refer the complaint to the Judicial Conduct Board and shall request a report back from the Board regarding the final disposition of the complaint.

(D) If the complaint is in regard to an attorney employed by the State, the Executive Director shall refer the complaint to the Professional Responsibility Board and shall request a report back from the Board regarding the final disposition of the complaint.

(E) If any of the complaints described in subdivisions (A)–(D) of this subdivision (4) also allege that a crime has been committed, the Executive Director shall also refer the complaint to the Attorney General and the State’s Attorney of jurisdiction.

(5) Closures. The Executive Director shall close any complaint that he or she does not refer as set forth in subdivisions (1)–(4) of this subsection.

(c) Confidentiality. Complaints and related documents in the custody of the Commission shall be exempt from public inspection and copying under the Public Records Act and kept confidential.

#### § 1224. COMMISSION ETHICS TRAINING

At least annually, in collaboration with the Department of Human Resources, the Commission shall make available to legislators, State officers, and State employees training on issues related to governmental ethics. The training shall include topics related to those covered in any guidance provided or advisory opinion issued under section 1225 of this subchapter.

#### § 1225. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR GUIDANCE AND ADVISORY OPINIONS

(a) Guidance.

(1) ~~The Executive Director may issue~~ provide guidance only to ~~an Executive officer or other State employee~~ a person who is or will be subject to the provisions of this chapter, upon his or her request, ~~guidance with respect to that person's duties~~ regarding any provision of this chapter or regarding any other issue related to governmental ethics.

(2) The Executive Director may consult with members of the Commission and the Department of Human Resources in preparing this guidance.

(3) ~~Guidance issued~~ provided under this subsection shall be exempt from public inspection and copying under the Public Records Act and shall be kept confidential unless the receiving entity has publicly disclosed it.

(b) Advisory opinions.

(1) ~~The~~ On the written request of a person who is or will be subject to the provisions of this chapter, the Executive Director may issue an advisory ~~opinions~~ opinion to that person that ~~provide~~ provides general advice or interpretation with respect to that person's duties regarding any provision of this chapter or regarding any other issue related to governmental ethics.

(2) The Executive Director may consult with members of the Commission and the Department of Human Resources in preparing these advisory opinions.

(3) The Executive Director may seek comment from persons interested in the subject of an advisory opinion under consideration.

(4) The Executive Director shall post on the Commission's website any advisory opinions that he or she issues.

#### § 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. The number of requests for and a summary of the guidance ~~documents~~ the Executive Director ~~issued~~ provided, separating the guidance by topic. This summary of guidance shall not include any personal identifying information.

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

Sec. 2. 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 79, Sec. 13, as amended by 2020 Acts and Resolves No. 120, Sec. A.8 is further amended to read:

Sec. 13. STATE ETHICS COMMISSION FUNDING SOURCE  
SURCHARGE; REPEAL

(a) Surcharge.

(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of 3 V.S.A. § 2283(c) setting forth the purpose and rate of charges collected in the Human Resource Services Internal Service Fund, in fiscal year 2018 and thereafter, a surcharge of up to 2.3 percent, but no greater than the cost of the activities of the State Ethics Commission set forth in Sec. 7 of this act, on the per-position portion of the charges authorized in 3 V.S.A. § 2283(c)(2) shall be assessed to all Executive Branch agencies, departments, and offices and shall be paid by all assessed entities solely with State funds.

(2) The amount collected shall be accounted for within the Human Resource Services Internal Service Fund and used solely for the purposes of funding the activities of the State Ethics Commission set forth in Sec. 7 of this act.

(b) Repeal. This section shall be repealed on ~~June 30, 2021~~ July 1, 2022.

Sec. 3. IMPLEMENTATION OF STAGGERED FIVE-YEAR TERMS

In order to stagger the terms of the members of the State Ethics Commission as described in 3 V.S.A. § 1221(b)(5)(A) in Sec. 1 of this act, members shall serve five-year terms beginning on January 1, 2022, except that:

(1) Following the conclusion of the current term of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court appointment on December 31, 2023, the subsequent Chief Justice of the Supreme Court appointment shall be for a two-year term ending on December 31, 2025.

(2) Following the conclusion of the current term of the Board of Directors of the Vermont Human Resource Association appointment on December 31, 2022, the subsequent SHRM (Society of Human Resource Management) Vermont State Council appointment shall be for a two-year term ending on December 31, 2024.

Sec. 4. CREATION OF POSITION WITHIN THE STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

The Executive Director, with the consent of the State Ethics Commission, is authorized to establish one new exempt 0.5 full-time equivalent Administrative Assistant position for the efficient administration of the Commission.

Sec. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on passage.

(Committee vote: 5-0-0)

(For House amendments, see House Journal for February 24, 2021, pages 247-255.)

**H. 337.**

An act relating to the printing and distribution of State publications.

**Reported favorably with recommendation of proposal of amendment by Senator White for the Committee on Government Operations.**

The Committee recommends that the Senate propose to the House to amend the bill as follows:

In Sec. 6, 22 V.S.A. § 611 (d), immediately following the words “by the State Librarian” by inserting , provided that the sale is permitted by the publishing contract before the period.

(Committee vote: 5-0-0)

(For House amendments, see House Journal for March 17, 2021, pages 354-355.)

**ORDERED TO LIE**

**S. 100.**

An act relating to universal school breakfast and lunch for all public school students and to creating incentives for schools to purchase locally produced foods.

**CONFIRMATIONS**

The following appointments will be considered by the Senate, as a group, under suspension of the Rules, as moved by the President *pro tempore*, for confirmation together and without debate, by consent thereby given by the Senate. However, upon request of any senator, any appointment may be singled out and acted upon separately by the Senate, with consideration given to the report of the Committee to which the appointment was referred, and



with full debate; and further, all appointments for the positions of Secretaries of Agencies, Commissioners of Departments, Judges, Magistrates, and members of the Public Utility Commission shall be fully and separately acted upon.

Joseph Flynn of South Hero – Secretary, Agency of Transportation – By Sen. Mazza for the Committee on Transportation. (3/19/21)

Wanda L. Minoli of Montpelier – Commissioner, Department of Motor Vehicles – By Sen. Ingalls for the Committee on Transportation. (3/19/21)

Jennifer M. Fitch of Montpelier – Commissioner, Department of Buildings and General Services – By Sen. Benning for the Committee on Institutions. (3/26/21)

Michael Schirling of Burlington – Commissioner, Department of Public Safety – By Senator Ingalls for the Committee on Transportation. (3/26/21)

Sarah Squirrell of Waterbury Center – Commissioner, Department of Mental Health – Sen. Hooker for the Committee on Health and Welfare. (4/2/21)

Cory G. Gustafson of Montpelier – Commissioner, Department of Vermont Health Access – By Sen. Cummings for the Committee on Health and Welfare. (4/6/21)

Michael K. Smith of Westford – Secretary, Agency of Human Services – By Sen. Lyons for the Committee on Health and Welfare. (4/6/21)

Sean P. Brown of Washington – Commissioner, Department for Children and Families – By Sen. Hooker for the Committee on Health and Welfare. (4/7/21)

Dr. Jessica Holmes of Cornwall – Member, Green Mountain Care Board – Sen. Hardy for the Committee on Health and Welfare. (4/7/21)

Mark A. Levine, MD of Shelburne – Commissioner, Department of Health – By Sen. Hardy for the Committee on Health and Welfare. (4/7/21)

Susanne R. Young of Northfield – Secretary, Agency of Administration – By Sen. Collamore for the Committee on Government Operations. (4/13/21)

Mary E. Fastiggi of Burlington – Commissioner, Department of Human Resources -By Sen. Pollina for the Committee on Government Operations. (4/14/21)

Adam Greshin of Warren – Commissioner, Department of Finance and Management – By Sen. Clarkson for the Committee on Government Operations. (4/14/21)

John J. Quinn III of Berlin – Secretary, Agency of Digital Services – By Sen. Ram for the Committee on Government Operations. (4/14/21)

June Tierney of Randolph – Commissioner, Department of Public Service – By Sen. Cummings for the Committee on Finance. (4/14/21)

Michael Pieciak of Winooski – Commissioner, Department of Financial Regulation – By Sen. Sirotkin for the Committee on Finance. (4/15/21)

### **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 #3043** - \$4,284,369 from the US Dept of Education to the VT Agency of Education for assistance to VT's approved and recognized non-profit independent schools to address educational disruptions caused by COVID-19. Funds will be managed by the VT Agency of Education. *[NOTE: Funds will be used with the GEER EANS program: Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Emergency Assistance to Non-public Schools (EANS). This program is replacing Equitable Services in ESSER II and III. Please see this overview of how the funds will be used by the AOE to support independent schools.]*

*[JFO received 4/5/2021]*

**JFO #3044** – One (1) limited service position to the VT Dept. of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living to develop a Northeast Network of mental health counselors familiar with farmer related stressors. Total first year amount of \$146,766 from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Position has been approved for 1 year and is expected to be approved for 2 additional years.

*[JFO received 4/5/2021]*

**JFO #3045** - 48 (forty-eight) limited-service positions to carry out the ongoing work for an effective public health response to COVID-19. *[NOTE: Positions to be funded through ongoing CDC grants #2254 (Immunization) and #2478 (Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity) previously approved in 2006 and 2010, respectively.]*

*[JFO received 4/13/2021]*

## 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).**