

VSEA STATE PURPOSE: VSEA requests the changes noted below. In sum, if the state is going to treat correctional officers like certified law enforcement officers, then correctional officers deserved comparable retirement benefits.

Sec. 9. CRIMINAL JUSTICE COUNCIL; DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS;
CERTIFICATION PROCESS

During the 2021 legislative interim, the Criminal Justice Council and the Department of Corrections shall develop a proposal governing minimum training standards, complaint investigations, and a process for certification and decertification of correctional officers as defined in 28 V.S.A. §3. The proposal shall give the Council the authority to investigate allegations of correctional officer misconduct and to certify and decertify correctional officers only after exhaustion of all available opportunities available to correctional officers as set forth in any applicable collective bargaining agreement. The proposal shall also include a plan for offering full retirement for certified correctional officers after 20 years at age 55. On or before December 1, 2021, the Council and the Department shall report the proposal to the Joint Legislative Justice Oversight Committee.