

Supreme Court of Vermont
Office of State Court Administrator

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TO: Representative Sarah Copeland-Hanzas, Chair
House Government Operations

FROM: Patricia Gabel, Esq., State Court Administrator

RE: Pension Benefits and Funding Task Force

DATE: April 14, 2021

This Memorandum proposes changes to the following draft of proposed legislation creating the Pension Benefits and Funding Task Force: (dr req 21-0967 – draft 1.2) / 4/12/2021 – RDW – 1:05 PM.

Given that the proposed draft includes representatives of the other two branches of state government on the Task Force and given that the Judiciary as an employer of members of the pension plan and the Supreme Court in its constitutional role as the administrator of the Judicial Branch are not represented, the Judiciary proposes changes to the above-referenced draft as indicated in yellow highlighting below. If the Committee is prepared to vote to adopt these changes, we do not need to offer testimony. If the Committee is not prepared to vote to adopt these changes, then the Judiciary requests the opportunity to testify before the Committee prior to the Committee vote regarding this draft bill.

Sec. 10, (d):

“(d) Stakeholder input. During the course of its deliberations, and prior to any final recommendations being made, the Task Force shall:

(1) solicit input, including through public hearings, from affected stakeholders; and

(2) consult with *(1) representatives designated by the Supreme Court acting in its constitutional role as the administrator of the Judicial Branch;* (2) Group D members of the

State Employees' Retirement System; and (3) members of the State Employees' Retirement System employed as State correctional officers.”

Thank you for your consideration of our proposal and request.

cc: Gregg Mousley, Judiciary Chief of Finance and Administration
Rebecca Wasserman, Legislative Counsel
Rep. John Gannon, Vice Chair
Rep. Robert LaClair, Ranking Member
Rep. Peter Anthony
Rep. Harold "Hal" Colston, Clerk
Rep. Mark Higley
Rep. Robert Hooper
Rep. Samantha Lefebvre
Rep. Michael McCarthy
Rep. Michael Mrowicki
Rep. Tanya Vyhovsky
Andrea Hussey, Committee Assistant