

1 H.317

2 Representative Christie of Hartford moves that the bill be amended by  
3 striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the  
4 following:

5 Sec. 1. RACIAL DISPARITIES IN CRIMINAL AND JUVENILE JUSTICE  
6 SYSTEMS ADVISORY PANEL; REPORT ON BUREAU OF  
7 RACIAL JUSTICE STATISTICS

8 (a) On or before November 15, 2021, the Racial Disparities in the Criminal  
9 and Juvenile Justice System Advisory Panel shall report to the House and  
10 Senate Committees on Judiciary on the creation of a Bureau of Racial Justice  
11 Statistics to collect and analyze data related to systemic racial bias and  
12 disparities within the criminal and juvenile justice systems.. The report shall  
13 address:

14 (1) where the Bureau should be situated, taking into account the  
15 necessity for independence and the advantages and disadvantages of being a  
16 stand-alone body or being housed in state government;

17 (2) how and to what extent the Bureau should be staffed;

18 (3) what should be the scope of the Bureau's mission;

19 (4) how the Bureau should conduct data collection and analysis; and

20 (5) the best methods for the Bureau to enforce its data collection and  
21 analysis responsibilities.

1        (b) For purposes of developing the report required by subsection (a) of this  
2 section, the Panel shall:

3            (1) consult with:

4                    (A) the Vermont Crime Research Group;

5                    (B) the National Center on Restorative Justice;

6                    (C) the University of Vermont; and

7                    (D) any other entity that would be of assistance to the Bureau; and

8            (2) consult with and have the assistance of:

9                    (A) the Vermont Chief Performance Officer; and

10                   (B) the Vermont Chief Data Officer.

11        (c) The report required by subsection (a) of this section shall include  
12 proposed draft legislation.

13        (d) Members of the Panel who are neither State employees nor otherwise  
14 paid to participate in the working group in their professional capacity shall be  
15 entitled to per diem compensation and reimbursement of expenses for  
16 attending meetings as permitted under 32 V.S.A. § 1010. The Attorney General  
17 may in its discretion pay more than the per diem permitted under 32 V.S.A.  
18 § 1010 to members of the Panel who are neither state employees nor otherwise  
19 paid to participate in the working group in their professional capacity, provided  
20 that such payments shall be made out of the \$50,000.00 appropriated to the  
21 Office of the Attorney General in subsection (e) of this section.

1       (e) In fiscal year 2022, \$50,000.00 is appropriated to the Office of the  
2       Attorney General from the General Fund to complete the work described in  
3       this section, a portion of which may be used to contract with the University of  
4       Vermont Legislative Internship Program for the purposes of providing support  
5       to the Panel for the report required by this section. Interns for the Panel shall  
6       be drawn from diverse backgrounds to represent the interests of communities  
7       of color throughout the State.

8       Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

9       This act shall take effect on passage.