



**State of Vermont**  
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**Office of the Secretary**

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*Kristin L. Clouser, Secretary*

From:

Jay Greene, MPH (they/them)  
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To:

Chairwoman Maxine Grad  
House Committee on Judiciary  
115 State St., Montpelier, VT 05633-5301

Tuesday, May 3, 2022

Testimony on H.729, An act relating to miscellaneous judiciary procedures

Dear Chairwoman Grad,

The Office of Racial Equity was asked to submit testimony on Sen. Richard Sears proposed amendment to H.729, An act relating to miscellaneous judiciary procedures. Sen. Sears amendment would include a provision of H.329, An act relating to amending the prohibitions against discrimination, within H.729. The Office of Racial Equity supports including the extension on the statute of limitations for harassment or discrimination related employment cases from H.329 in the H.729 miscellaneous Judiciary act.

The extension on the statute of limitations was recommended by numerous community stakeholders who provided testimony in support of H.329, including the Vermont Human Rights Commission, the National Women's Law Foundation, and the Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence, among others. The recommendation to improve employment protections was originally put forth in the first reports of the Vermont Racial Equity Task Force released in September 2020 and further developed in the second report released January 15, 2021. Your committee may still make a difference to employment protections as recommended by the Vermont Racial Equity Task Force through the inclusion of Sen. Sears' proposed amendment.

Sincerely,

Jay Greene, MPH  
Racial Equity Policy and Research Analyst  
Office of Racial Equity