

1 H.XX

2 Senator Sears moves that the bill be amended by adding a Sec. X to read as
3 follows:

4 Sec. X. 24 V.S.A. § 290 is amended to read:

5 § 290. COUNTY SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT

6 (a) A sheriff’s department is established in each county. It shall consist of
7 the elected sheriff in each county, and such deputy sheriffs and supporting staff
8 as may be appointed by the sheriff. Full-time employees of the sheriff’s
9 department, paid by the county, shall be county employees for all purposes but
10 shall be eligible to join the State Employees Retirement System, provided the
11 county shall pay the employer’s share. The sheriff’s department shall be
12 entitled to utilize all State services available to a town within the county.

13 (b) Full-time State deputy sheriffs whose primary responsibility is
14 transportation of prisoners and persons with a mental condition or psychiatric
15 disability shall be paid by the State of Vermont. The positions and their
16 funding shall be assigned to the Department of State’s Attorneys and Sheriffs.
17 The Executive Director shall have the authority to determine job duties for the
18 position, assignment of positions to county, regular and temporary work
19 locations, assistance to other State agencies and departments, timesheet
20 systems, daily work logs, and to have final approval of personnel matters
21 including, but not limited to, approval for hiring, paygrade assignment, hiring

1 ~~rate, discipline and termination. The appointment of such deputies and their~~
2 ~~salary shall be approved by the Governor or his or her designee. The Executive~~
3 ~~Committee of the Vermont Sheriffs Association and the Executive Director of~~
4 ~~the Department of State’s Attorneys and Sheriffs shall jointly have authority~~
5 ~~for the assignment of position locations in the counties of State paid deputy~~
6 ~~sheriffs and shall review the county location assignments periodically for~~
7 ~~efficient use of resources. Effective January 1, 2023, the Sheriffs shall have an~~
8 ~~Executive Committee of not more than five current Sheriffs, elected for a two-~~
9 ~~year term by a vote of the Sheriffs held not later than January 15th, for a term~~
10 ~~starting February 1st. The Executive Committee shall have a Chair, Vice-~~
11 ~~Chair and Secretary-Treasurer, and two members at large. The Executive~~
12 ~~Committee shall meet at least quarterly to provide input to the Department of~~
13 ~~State’s Attorneys and Sheriffs regarding budget, legislation, personnel and~~
14 ~~policies, and the assignment of positions, when vacancies arise, for efficient~~
15 ~~use of resources.~~

16 (c) Equity, indebtedness, ownership of equipment, and title to motor
17 vehicles associated with the operation of each sheriff’s department and
18 purchased with department funds shall be held in the name of the department,
19 not in the name of the sheriff. The department is constituted as a legal entity
20 with the power to contract and incur liabilities.

1 (d) Upon the election of a sheriff-elect who is not the incumbent sheriff, or
2 upon notice of the resignation of the sheriff, all financial disbursements from
3 the accounts of the department, including the transfer of real or personal
4 property, or other assets, of the department shall be co-signed by the sheriff
5 and the assistant judges. A report of all financial disbursements or transfers
6 made pursuant to this subsection shall be forwarded by the assistant judges to
7 the Auditor of Accounts within 15 days of completion of the out-going
8 sheriff's duties.

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