

1 H.270

2 Senator Vyhovsky moves that the Senate propose to the House that the bill
3 be amended by adding a Sec. 24a to read as follows:

4 Sec. 24a. RACIAL DISPARITIES IN THE CRIMINAL AND JUVENILE
5 JUSTICE SYSTEM ADVISORY PANEL REPORTING; RACIAL EQUITY
6 AND COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT

7 (a) The Racial Disparities in the Criminal and Juvenile Justice System
8 Advisory Panel shall collaborate with local and national stakeholders to study
9 the administration and funding of the Cannabis Business Development Fund
10 and gather qualitative and quantitative data informing the establishment and
11 funding of community reinvestment for individuals and communities
12 disproportionately impacted by the criminalization of cannabis. The study
13 shall do each of the following:

14 (1) Identify in an aggregated format the demographics of individuals who
15 have been disproportionately impacted by cannabis prohibition in Vermont and
16 nationally and identify communities most heavily impacted, while not
17 disclosing the identity of any particular individual.

18 (2) Identify the ways in which such individuals and communities have
19 been disproportionately impacted by cannabis prohibition in Vermont,
20 including rates of poverty; access to employment, housing, and education; and
21 involvement with the criminal justice system.

1 (3) Any other issues related to the impacts of the criminalization of
2 cannabis in Vermont and the United States that will improve racial equity and
3 community reinvestment in Vermont.

4 (b) The Panel shall convene not less than four times to complete its work.

5 (c) The Panel shall provide recommendations on how to administer and
6 fund the Cannabis Business Development Fund and fund and administer
7 reinvestment in individuals and communities disproportionately harmed by
8 cannabis criminalization to the Senate Committee on Economic Development,
9 Housing and General Affairs and on Finance on or before January 15, 2024.