Bills Referred to House Committee on Transportation in 2024 (through January 16, 2024) Prepared by Legislative Counsel – A. Dexter-Cooper on January 16, 2024

Bill	Title	VERY Brief Summary	Sponsor
<u>H.526</u>	An act relating to the redesign of Bridge 9 in Barre City	 Would: add the redesign of Bridge 9, the bridge over Stevens Branch at Berlin Street in Barre City, to the Agency of Transportation's Town Highway Bridges Program with a project completion date on or before June 30, 2028, with minimum design standards; and as an alternative if the bridge cannot be sufficiently redesigned, add the removal of the bridge to the Agency of Transportation's Town Highway Bridges Program with a project completion date on or before June 30, 2028. NOTE: There are legislative findings. 	Rep. Peter Anthony+1
<u>H.542</u>	An act relating to speed limits in State-designated centers	 Would allow all State-designated centers under 24 V.S.A. chapter 76A, not just downtown development districts, to have posted speed limits of less than 25 miles per hour. NOTE: Page 2, line 6 to page 3, line 5 is just cleanup, no substantive changes. 	Rep. Kate Nugent+

¹ + Designates that there are additional sponsors.

<u>H.547</u>	An act relating to the repeal of the automated license plate recognition (ALPR) system statutes and the enactment of laws allowing for the use of automated law enforcement (SF) ²	 Would allow the current regulations on the use of automated license plate recognition (ALPR) system statutes to sunset on July 1, 2024, and enact new laws allowing for ALPR systems and automated traffic law enforcement (ATLE) systems to be used for legitimate law enforcement purposes. NOTE: Another ATLE bill introduced in the House (H.562) and in the Senate (S.184) 	Rep. James Harrison
<u>H.562</u>	An act relating to the temporary use of automated traffic law enforcement (ATLE)	 Would: allow for the use of automated traffic law enforcement (ATLE) on a temporary basis, from July 1, 2025, until July 1, 2027, in work zones and at two other locations in the State provided certain requirements are met (calibration, signage, outreach, traffic engineering analysis, only rear plate photos are taken, daily logging, notice to registered owner, etc.); have tickets be monetary only (no points), with the first violation in a year being \$0.00 and issued to the registered owner of the motor vehicle that was going 11+ mph over the speed limit; 	Rep. Sara Coffey+

² (SF) Designates that the bill is a short-form bill.

<u>H.623</u>

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	 limit uses of data/recorded images and only be preserved for a year (violation lookback window); 	
	- require annual reporting; and	
	- prohibit the use of both automated license plate recognition (ALPR) and ATLE systems starting on July 1, 2027.	
	NOTE: Another ATLE bill introduced in the House (<u>H.547</u>) and in the Senate (<u>S.184</u>)	
An act relating to access to public transit in rural Vermont (SF)	Would:	Rep. Melanie Carpenter+
	 require the implementation of a public transit service model based on the benefit and risk assessments required under <u>2023</u> <u>Acts and Resolves No. 62, Sec. 16</u> that provides sufficient and appropriate public 	

transit service model based on the benefit and risk assessments required under 2023 <u>Acts and Resolves No. 62, Sec. 16</u> that provides sufficient and appropriate public transit service to rural Vermonters, is sustainable by rural public transit providers, and fully utilizes Medicaid reimbursements, as applicable, and other available federal funding; and	
- require consideration and, if practicable, establishment and funding of the Mobility for All Pilot Program through Rural Community Transportation, Inc.	

<u>H.685</u>	An act relating to pedestrians and pedestrian safety and bicycle and pedestrian facilities	Would:	Rep. Kate Lalley+
	and breyere and pedesarian raemites	 amend the definition of "pedestrian" to include someone in a wheelchair or other personal mobility device; 	
		 require, not recommend, a passing clearance of at least four feet when a motor vehicle is passing a vulnerable user; 	
		- eliminate the requirement that a pedestrian use the sidewalk when one is present;	
		- modify what traffic signals bicyclists would need to follow in certain circumstances (stop sign treated as a yield and allowed to follow pedestrian-control devices and signals when crossing an intersection);	
		- allow for selectboards to install crossing flags at crosswalks on town highways if certain requirements are met; and	
		 require the Agency of Transportation, in consultation with the Vermont State Historic Preservation Officer and the Advisory Council on Historic 	
		Preservation, to seek to amend the <u>Programmatic Agreement Among the</u> <u>Federal Highway Administration, the</u> <u>Vermont State Historic Preservation</u> <u>Officer, the Advisory Council on Historic</u>	

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		 Preservation, and the Vermont Agency of Transportation Regarding the Federal-Aid Highway Program in Vermont to categorize the creation of new bicycle and pedestrian facilities as either exempt or screened activities. NOTE: Sec. 1 is identical to Sec. 1 of <u>H.752</u> and Sec. 2 is very similar to Sec. 2 of H.752. 	
<u>H.693</u>	An act relating to 2024 transportation initiatives to improve infrastructure, increase resiliency, and reduce carbon emissions	 Would: increase the annual appropriations to the Agency of Transportation for the Better Roads Program and the Municipal Highway and Stormwater Mitigation Program within the Municipal Mitigation Assistance Program in fiscal year 2025; appropriate \$250,000.00 to the Agency of Transportation for a continuation of the eBike Incentive Program in fiscal year 2025; require that the annual report on the State's vehicle incentive programs include information on the State's outreach and marketing efforts and recommendations for improvement of how the State markets and conducts outreach related to the State's vehicle incentive programs; 	Rep. Sara Coffey+

	 codify the existing State goals for electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE) along the State highway network and requirement that the Agency of Transportation annually report on the State's efforts to meet those goals and also require that the Agency report on efforts to increase EVSE in the State and the operational status of EVSE available to the public, which shall be informed, in part, by reports collected through a new EVSE complaint form; require the Agency of Transportation to prepare a written plan for how to fund and maintain the EVSE necessary for Vermont to meet the plug-in electric vehicle (PEV) goals in the Comprehensive Energy Plan and the Vermont Climate Action Plan; appropriate \$3,000,000.00 to the Agency of Commerce and Community Development for a continuation of the EVSE Grant Program in fiscal year 2025; require the Public Utility Commission to make written recommendations on what level of regulation, if any, should be placed on EVSE available to the public that is not owned and operated by an 	
	that is not owned and operated by an electric distribution utility;	

- establish right-to-charge laws to permit
property owners and tenants to install
EVSE;
- allow residential customers to upgrade
their electric service to enable
participation in substantial domestic
electrification, including managed level 2
charging capability for PEVs, without
incurring additional customer-specific
charges from their electric utility;
- require the Agency of Transportation to
prepare a written plan to determine what
programmatic elements need to be in
place to allow for the expansion of
carsharing in Vermont;
- appropriate \$750,000.00 to the Agency of
Transportation for a continuation of the
Mobility and Transportation Innovation
(MTI) Grant Program with an early application window for applicants that are
seeking a grant award for a project in a
rural community in fiscal year 2025;
rutai community in fiscar year 2025,
- require the Agency of Transportation to
request of Amtrak and coordinate efforts
with Amtrak on the feasibility of adding
additional service and increasing bicycle
storage on Amtrak trains in Vermont and
to report on those efforts;

	 eliminate the statutory requirement of 50 percent of Transportation Alternatives Grant Program awards being for environmental mitigation projects, thereby potentially increasing the number of bicycle and pedestrian facility projects that can be funded through the Program; increase the annual appropriation to the Agency of Transportation to provide grants for bicycle and pedestrian facilities projects in fiscal year 2025; 	
	 increase the annual transfer from the Transportation Fund to the Downtown Transportation and Related Capital Improvement Fund and the annual appropriation to the Agency of Transportation for the Better Connections Program in fiscal year 2025; 	
	- require the Agency of Transportation to incorporate complete streets standards in the replacement to the Vermont State Standards, develop a way to target funding for complete streets projects within State-designated centers, develop a pattern book or other design guidelines to provide safer bicycle and pedestrian accommodations, and establish clear standard treatment guidance for providing safer bicycle facilities on State highways;	

		 allow all State-designated centers to have posted speed limits of less than 25 miles per hour; and require the State Treasurer to develop a written proposal for new revenue sources for dedicated and ongoing funding related to transportation and the environment. NOTE: There are legislative findings, short title is Transportation Infrastructure and Resiliency Act of 2024, and incorporates <u>H.542</u> (speed limits in State-designated centers) and <u>H.574</u> (residential service upgrades for beneficial electrification). 	
<u>H.732</u>	An act relating to traffic cameras and traffic violations for illegally passing a school bus	 Would: require video cameras on type I and II school buses that record images of the license plates of motor vehicles that violate the statute on passing a school bus when the school bus is stopped to allow passengers on or off the school bus with the flashing red signal lights are engaged (also could be the stop arm); and eliminate the point assessment for passing a stopped school bus with flashing lights engaged but allow for violations, which would be monetary only, to be issued by a law enforcement officer based on the 	Rep. Dennis LaBounty+

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Rep. Casey Toof+

		and first apply to school buses operated during the 2025-2026 school year.	
<u>H.749</u>	An act relating to waived registration fees for volunteer firefighter motor vehicles	Would waive the registration fee for a motor vehicle owned or leased by a volunteer firefighter and issued a permit for sirens and red or red and white signal lamps.	Rep. Casey Toof+
<u>H.752</u>	An act relating to pedestrians, pedestrian safety, and motor vehicle safety	 Would: amend the definition of "pedestrian" to include someone in a wheelchair or other personal mobility device; and require, not recommend, a passing clearance of at least four feet when a motor vehicle is passing a vulnerable user or stationary sanitation, maintenance, utility, or delivery vehicle with flashing lights. NOTE: Sec. 1 is identical to Sec. 1 of <u>H.685</u> and Sec. 2 is very similar to Sec. 2 of H.685. 	Rep. Michael Morgan+
<u>H.753</u>	An act relating to driver education for students participating in the home study program	 Would: require the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles and the Secretary of Education to approve, by July 1, 2024, one or more 	Rep. Casey Toof+

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		driver education and training courses, with behind-the-wheel component, suitable for a parent or guardian of a high-school aged student enrolled in the home study program to use for teaching a home study student;	
		- establish requirements on what is included in the course and who is eligible to teach the course; and	
		- require a written report on aggregate data comparing students participating in a driver education program offered through a public or independent high school and students participating in a driver education program offered through the home study program by November 15, 2028.	
<u>H.761</u>	An act relating to penalties and point assessments for using a portable electronic device while operating a moving motor vehicle and the Distracted Driving Diversion Program	Would modify the civil penalties and point assessments for the three, non-commercial driver's license, distracted driving statutes and establish the Distracted Driving Diversion Program.	Rep. Brian Smith+
		NOTE: This is <u>H.133 (2023)</u> with the inclusion of the creation of the Distracted Driving Diversion Program, as discussed by House Transportation in 2022 (as <u>modified H.262</u> (2022), which is very similar to H.761 and a comparison chart to existing law is available <u>here</u>).	

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<u>H.798</u>	An act relating to prohibiting speed bumps and	Would:			

<u>H.798</u>	An act relating to prohibiting speed bumps and speed humps	 Would: prohibit the installation of speed bumps and speed humps unless the Agency of Transportation or municipality with jurisdiction over the public highway determines that there is no other traffic calming alternative and complies with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD); and grandfather in existing speed bumps and humps that comply with the MUTCD, which cannot be replaced with a speed bump or hump except as otherwise allowed under law. 	Rep. Seth Chase+
<u>H.803</u>	An act relating to the modification of a motor vehicle's exhaust system	 Would prohibit the modification of a motor vehicle's exhaust system so that it emits in excess of 95 decibels, with a requirement that the offense be proved by showing that the modifications resulted in noise amplification in excess of 95 decibels and a defense for reasonable belief that the vehicle was not operated in excess of 95 decibels and an exception for certain uses at public exhibitions. NOTE: Re-run of <u>H.854 (2020)</u>, related to report that is required under <u>2023 Acts and Resolves</u> <u>No. 41, Sec. 42</u> (due January 1, 2025). 	Rep. Seth Chase+

<u>H.804</u>	An act relating to exhibition vehicle registration	Would expand the eligible uses of an exhibition vehicle to be based on total annual mileage (1,000 miles) and not usage frequency (once per year) and increase the registration fee (\$50.00) and length (five years).	Rep. Seth Chase+
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