

1 TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

2 The Committee on Appropriations to which was referred Senate Bill No. 17  
3 entitled “An act relating to sheriff reforms” respectfully reports that it has  
4 considered the same and recommends that the report of the Committee on  
5 Government Operations be amended as follows:

6 First: In Sec. 5, 24 V.S.A. § 291a, by striking out subsection (f) in its  
7 entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new subsection (f) to read as follows:

8 (f) An agreement or contract for sheriff’s departments to provide law  
9 enforcement or security services to county and State courthouses shall be  
10 subject to a single, statewide contracted rate of pay for such services over all  
11 county and State courthouses.

12 Second: By adding one new section to be Sec. 5a to read as follows:

13 Sec. 5a. USE OF ADMINISTRATIVE OVERHEAD FUNDS IN 2023  
14 AND 2024

15 Notwithstanding 24 V.S.A. § 291a(c), in calendar years 2023 and 2024, a  
16 sheriff’s department may use funds derived from contract administrative  
17 overhead fees to make supplemental salary payments to a sheriff of not more  
18 than 50 percent of the annual compensation for a sheriff, provided that the  
19 sheriff has been in office at least two years, and to any employee of a sheriff’s  
20 department or a sheriff that has been in office less than two years of not more  
21 than 10 percent of the annual compensation for the employee. Funds derived

1 from contract administrative overhead fees shall not be used for any other  
2 bonus or supplemental employment benefit payment.

3 Third: In Sec. 11, Sheriff's Departments Oversight Task Force; report, by  
4 striking out subsection (c) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new  
5 subsection (c) to read as follows:

6 (c) Powers and duties. The Sheriff's Departments Oversight Task Force  
7 shall consider issues relating to oversight of sheriff's departments, including  
8 the following:

9 (1) creating and maintaining policies and best practices to be included in  
10 standard operating procedures manuals and policy manuals;

11 (2) increasing efficiency and equity in the delivery of public safety  
12 services by sheriff's departments;

13 (3) the compensation structure and levels of sheriffs, deputies, and  
14 departmental staff, including salaries, overtime, retirement, benefits, and  
15 bonuses;

16 (4) the duties of sheriffs, as related to both law enforcement and  
17 administration of sheriff's departments;

18 (5) oversight of sheriffs, as related to both conduct and administration of  
19 sheriff's departments;

20 (6) creating a sustainable funding model for sheriff's departments that is  
21 not based on contracts for services;

