

1 TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

2 The Committee on Judiciary to which was referred House Bill No. 882
3 entitled “An act relating to capital construction and State bonding budget
4 adjustment” respectfully reports that it has considered the same and
5 recommends that the Senate propose to the House that the bill be amended by
6 striking out Sec. 26, potential reuse of Chittenden Regional Correctional
7 Facility site; feasibility; report, in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a
8 new Sec. 26 to read as follows:

9 Sec. 26. POTENTIAL REUSE OF CHITTENDEN REGIONAL
10 CORRECTIONAL FACILITY SITE; FEASIBILITY; REPORT

11 (a) On or before February 15, 2025, the Commissioner of Buildings and
12 General Services, in consultation with the Commissioner of Corrections, shall
13 report to the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions and the Senate
14 Committees on Institutions and on Judiciary regarding the feasibility of
15 utilizing the site of the Chittenden Regional Correctional Facility for a reentry
16 facility for eligible justice-involved men following the construction of
17 replacement facilities for justice-involved women.

18 (b) The report shall:

19 (1)(A) evaluate the condition and structure of the existing facility to
20 determine if it can be repurposed as a reentry facility in a manner that supports
21 the programmatic goals of the Department of Corrections using evidence-based

1 principles for wellness environments for supporting trauma-informed practices;
2 and

3 (B) if it can be repurposed as a reentry facility, the improvements and
4 other work necessary to support the programmatic goals of the Department of
5 Corrections using evidence-based principles for wellness environments for
6 supporting trauma-informed practices and the estimated cost of performing the
7 work;

8 (2)(A) evaluate whether a new reentry facility could be constructed on
9 the site following the demolition of some or all of the existing facility;

10 (B) identify potential designs for a newly constructed reentry facility
11 at the site that supports the programmatic goals of the Department of
12 Corrections using evidence-based principles for wellness environments for
13 supporting trauma-informed practices; and

14 (C) identify any site work, improvements, and other work necessary
15 to construct a new reentry facility on the site, including the cost of any such
16 work; and

17 (3) if the existing facility cannot be repurposed as a reentry facility and a
18 new reentry facility cannot be constructed on the site, identify other potential
19 sites for a male reentry facility that are near support services, programming,
20 and work opportunities needed to facilitate successful reentry into the
21 community.

1 (c) As used in this section, “reentry facility” means a facility at which
2 incarcerated individuals prepare to transition back into the community
3 following release. Reentry facilities provide services, or enable incarcerated
4 individuals to obtain services, that will facilitate the transition back into the
5 community, including career and housing supports, vocational education, job
6 placement, mental health counseling, substance use disorder treatment or
7 recovery services, financial education, assistance with obtaining public
8 benefits, and other similar services.

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11 (Committee vote: _____)

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Senator _____

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FOR THE COMMITTEE