

S.254

Introduced by Senator Collamore

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Corrections; probation and parole officers

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to allow probation and parole officers to carry firearms while on duty after successfully completing a course conducted by the Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council.

An act relating to allowing probation and parole officers to carry firearms while on duty

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 28 V.S.A. § 551a is amended to read:

§ 551. LAW ENFORCEMENT POWERS OF CORRECTIONAL
OFFICERS; TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

* * *

(c) Upon request of a correctional officer who is assigned to the Field Supervision Unit, the Commissioner shall authorize the officer to train and become certified by the Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council in the use of firearms for defensive purposes, appropriate use of force, reporting and

1 record keeping related to firearms, and personal liability for actions and
2 conduct related to firearms. The Commissioner and the Executive Director of
3 the Council shall develop the curriculum necessary to comply with this
4 subsection. A correctional officer who successfully completes the training
5 requirements of this subsection shall be permitted to carry a firearm while on
6 duty and to employ it in a defensive capacity.

7 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

8 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.