

S.285

Introduced by Senators Vyhovsky and Gulick

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Law enforcement officers; correctional officers; policies on religious
head coverings

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require the
Department of Public Safety and the Department of Corrections to adopt or
amend policies to allow Vermont State Police officers and correctional
officers, respectively, to wear religious head coverings.

An act relating to the adoption of policies to allow Vermont State Police
officers and correctional officers to wear religious head coverings

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

Sec. 1. POLICIES TO ALLOW VERMONT STATE POLICE OFFICERS
AND CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS TO WEAR RELIGIOUS HEAD
COVERINGS

(a) Not later than October 1, 2026, the Department of Public Safety shall
adopt or amend a policy to permit a law enforcement officer serving the
Vermont State Police to wear a religious head covering in accordance with the
law enforcement officer's religious beliefs while the law enforcement officer is

1 on duty and wearing a uniform or other authorized attire, except where the use
2 of tight-fitting protective headgear is required.

3 (b) Not later than October 1, 2026, the Department of Corrections shall
4 adopt or amend a policy to permit a correctional officer to wear a religious
5 head covering in accordance with the correctional officer's religious beliefs
6 while the correctional officer is on duty and wearing a uniform or other
7 authorized attire, except where the use of tight-fitting protective headgear is
8 required.

9 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

10 This act shall take effect on passage.