

House Calendar

Thursday, February 26, 2026

52nd DAY OF THE ADJOURNED SESSION

House Convenes at 3:30 P.M.

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ACTION CALENDAR

Action Postponed Until Thursday, February 26, 2026

Third Reading

H. 205

An act relating to agreements not to compete

Favorable with Amendment

H. 635

An act relating to eliminating Department of Corrections supervisory fees

Rep. Sweeney of Shelburne, for the Committee on Corrections and Institutions, recommends that the bill be amended as follows:

In Sec. 4, effective date, by striking out the word “passage” and inserting in lieu thereof “July 1, 2027”

(Committee Vote: 11-0-0)

Rep. Waszazak of Barre City, for the Committee on Ways and Means, recommends that the bill ought to pass when amended as recommended by the Committee on Corrections and Institutions.

(Committee Vote: 11-0-0)

New Business

Third Reading

H. 566

An act relating to sealing post-charge court diversion records upon successful completion

Committee of Conference Report

H. 790

An act relating to fiscal year 2026 budget adjustments

TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

The Committee of Conference to which were referred the disagreeing votes of the two Houses upon House Bill entitled:

H. 790. An act relating to fiscal year 2026 budget adjustments.

Respectfully reports that it has met and considered the same and recommends that the House accede to the Senate proposal of amendment and that the Senate proposal of amendment be further amended as follows:

First: By striking out Sec. 37. in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec. 37. to read as follows:

Sec. 37. 2025 Acts and Resolves No. 27, Sec. B.330 is amended to read:

Sec. B.330 Disabilities, aging, and independent living - advocacy and independent living grants

Grants	<u>24,909,492</u>	<u>25,125,975</u>
Total	24,909,492	25,125,975
Source of funds		
General fund	8,585,909	8,804,020
Federal funds	7,321,114	7,191,114
Global Commitment fund	<u>9,002,469</u>	<u>9,130,841</u>
Total	24,909,492	25,125,975

Second: By striking out Sec. 44. in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec. 44. to read as follows:

Sec. 44. 2025 Acts and Resolves No. 27, Sec. B.347 is amended to read:

Sec. B.347 Total human services

Source of funds		
General fund	1,428,803,059	1,461,126,849
Special funds	231,430,533	232,655,939
Tobacco fund	23,088,208	23,088,208
State health care resources fund	31,074,772	31,074,772
Federal funds	1,946,078,413	1,993,089,108
Global Commitment fund	2,148,606,890	2,213,122,801
Internal service funds	403,853	403,853
Interdepartmental transfers	32,694,090	32,694,090
Permanent trust funds	<u>25,000</u>	<u>25,000</u>
Total	5,842,204,818	5,987,280,620

Third: In Sec. 51., by striking out 2025 Acts and Resolves No. 27, Sec. B.1100(t)(2) and inserting in lieu thereof:

(2) ~~\$500,000~~ \$885,000 General Fund for a grant to Vermont Foodbank for the Vermonters Feeding Vermonters Program;

* * *

Fourth: By striking out Sec. 79. in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec. 79. to read as follows:

Sec. 79. HOUSING ASSISTANCE

(a) In fiscal year 2026 and fiscal year 2027, while the General Assembly is not in session the Emergency Board shall have the authority to transfer part of the appropriation in 2025 Acts and Resolves No. 27, Sec. B.1101(b)(2) to the Department for Children and Families for the purpose of assisting a housing authority to avoid termination of U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Section 8 housing choice vouchers that would otherwise be lost as the result of federal action.

(b) If funds are transferred for this purpose, they may be made available at the request of a housing authority for one of the following purposes:

(1) to maintain a current housing assistance payment in use or to prevent the retirement of a housing assistance payment currently in use by the housing authority; or

(2) with prior written approval from HUD, to provide funding to a housing authority in order to prevent the termination of assistance to current housing choice voucher participants.

(c) If funds are transferred for this purpose, an affirmative vote of the majority of a housing authority's commissioners shall be required prior to a housing authority requesting funds.

(d) A housing authority shall notify the Department for Children and Families of its intent to request funds and submit a report on its financial need, including evidence that the request conforms to applicable HUD requirements and is a necessary and proper expense, to the Department on or before April 15, 2026.

(e) On or before May 1, 2026, the Department for Children and Families, in consultation with the Department of Housing and Community Development, shall:

(1) establish procedures for validating that such expenditures conform to applicable HUD requirements and are a necessary and proper expense prior to issuing funds; and

(2) establish guidelines to ensure that funds are distributed based upon need.

(f) If funds are transferred for this purpose, the Department for Children and Families shall report to the Joint Fiscal Committee at its September 2026 meeting and submit a written report on or before January 15, 2027, to the

House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on the status of the appropriation.

(g) As used in this section, “housing authority” has the same meaning as in 24 V.S.A. § 4002.

Fifth: By striking out Sec. 83. in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec. 83. to read as follows:

Sec. 83. DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SERVICES PAYMENT REFORM; IMPLEMENTATION

(a)(1) In fiscal year 2026, the Department of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living shall adjust the developmental disabilities home- and community-based services payment model to reflect per-member, per-month payments to designated and specialized service agencies that are calculated based on a minimum-assumed utilization rate of 65 percent. Reconciliation shall occur in compliance with the developmental disabilities home- and community-based services payment reform rules and the False Claims Act, 31 U.S.C. § 3729 et seq.

(2) Each agency currently below the 65 percent threshold and requiring financial stabilization shall prepare and submit a financial stabilization plan to the Department on or before October 1, 2027. The Department shall review the stabilization plan and work with the proposing agencies toward the goal of stabilization and sustainability.

(b) The designated and specialized service agencies shall submit to the Department on or before April 1, 2026, all information deemed necessary by the Department to enable it to perform a comprehensive fiscal analysis and to implement resolutions to address barriers that inhibit an increase in service delivery utilization.

(c)(1) On or before April 15, 2026, the Agency of Human Services and the Departments of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living and of Vermont Health Access shall convene a meeting with the Chairs of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, the House Committee on Human Services, and the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare, or their designees, and with the designated and specialized service agencies and other key members of the developmental disabilities services delivery system. At the meeting, the parties shall discuss efforts that support the growth of a sustainable developmental disabilities services delivery system in which:

(A) increased service utilization meets the needs and goals of individuals and families and drives the designated and specialized service agencies’ success;

(B) Medicaid compliance is assured; and

(C) all State and federal rules are adhered to.

(2) At the meeting, the parties shall also develop and recommend concrete solutions to mitigate short-term financial impacts and Medicaid compliance risks associated with the implementation of developmental disabilities services payment reform, to the extent permitted under federal Medicaid rules.

(d) On or before May 1, 2026, the Department shall submit a written progress report to the House Committee on Human Services and to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare detailing recommended solutions, anticipated fiscal impacts to the designated and specialized service agencies, implementation timelines, and compliance safeguards, including how measures, such as the transitional utilization methodology, shall ensure continuity of care, prevent service disruption, and mitigate Medicaid compliance risks for providers and the State during the first year of payment reform implementation, to the extent permitted under federal Medicaid rules.

(e) If funds previously appropriated to the Agency of Human Services are insufficient to provide the State match needed to make the payment adjustment in subsection (a) of this section, notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 308b, the Commissioner of Finance and Management shall unreserve an amount of funds equal to the deficiency from the Human Services Caseload Reserve and, notwithstanding 32 V.S.A. § 706, transfer an amount of funds equal to the deficiency to the Agency of Human Services.

Sixth: By striking out Sec. 86. in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec. 86. to read as follows:

Sec. 86. 2025 Acts and Resolves No. 27, Sec. E.330 is added to read:

Sec. E.330 DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITIES, AGING AND
INDEPENDENT LIVING; VERMONT CENTER FOR
INDEPENDENT LIVING; FUNDING

(a) Of the General Fund appropriation in Sec. B.330 of this act, \$55,000 shall be granted to the Vermont Center for Independent Living to provide home-delivered meals to individuals with disabilities under 60 years of age.

ANDREW J. PERCHLIK

VIRGINIA V. LYONS

RICHARD A. WESTMAN
Committee on the part of the Senate
ROBIN P. SCHEU
MARTHA A. FELTUS
TIFFANY BLUEMLE
Committee on the part of the House

NOTICE CALENDAR
Favorable with Amendment
H. 512

An act relating to the regulation of the event ticketing market

Rep. Carris Duncan of Whitingham, for the Committee on Commerce and Economic Development, recommends that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 9 V.S.A. chapter 63, subchapter 2B is added to read:

Subchapter 2B. Event Tickets

§ 2479f. RESALE OF EVENT TICKETS

(a) Definitions. As used in this section:

(1) “Price” means the total amount paid or to be paid for a ticket, including all taxes, fees, and charges. Price does not include actual shipping costs.

(2) “Resale” means the second or subsequent sale of a ticket by any method, including in-person transactions, telephone, mail, email, facsimile, or electronic means through websites or mobile phone applications.

(3) “Reseller” means a person engaged in the resale of tickets.

(4) “Secondary ticket exchange” means an electronic marketplace enabling the sale, purchase, and resale of tickets.

(5) “Speculative ticket” means a ticket not in the actual or constructive possession of the reseller at the time of listing, sale, or advertisement. This includes tickets not owned by the reseller or under contract to be transferred to the reseller at the time of sale.

(6) “Ticket” means any form of physical, electronic, or other evidence that grants the possessor of the evidence license to enter a place of entertainment for one or more events at a specified date and time.

(7) “Ticket issuer” means a person or entity that issues tickets for initial sale, including musicians, venues, promoters, theater companies, marketplaces for initial purchases, or their agents.

(b) Notice requirement.

(1) A person operating a secondary ticket exchange shall provide a statement in a clear and conspicuous manner informing any customer:

(A) whether the customer is purchasing the ticket from a ticket issuer or a reseller as the case may be; and

(B) that the resale price of the ticket is limited by subsection (c) of this section.

(2) If a secondary ticket exchange provides information about the number or percentage of available tickets for a given event, the information shall not mislead customers about the availability of tickets on that platform or on other platforms.

(c) Price cap on the resale of event tickets.

(1) A ticket reseller shall not sell or offer for sale a ticket at a price greater than 110 percent of the price of an original ticket.

(2) A secondary ticket exchange shall not authorize for resale on the exchange a ticket for a price at greater than 110 percent of the price of an original ticket.

(3) This subsection shall not apply to the resale of a ticket if the reseller has a written contract with the ticket issuer for the resale of tickets at a price greater than 110 percent of the price of the original ticket.

(d) Ban on deceptive URLs and improper use of intellectual property. It shall be unlawful for a secondary ticket exchange, reseller, or the operator of any website purporting to sell or offer for sale event tickets that links or redirects to a secondary ticket exchange or reseller to:

(1) use deceptive website addresses or imply endorsement or ownership of any intellectual property of the venue or artist without explicit written authorization of the venue or artist; or

(2) state or imply that the secondary ticket exchange, reseller, or website is affiliated with or endorsed by a venue, team, or artist, including by using words such as “official” in promotional materials, social media promotions,

search engine optimization, paid advertising, URLs, or search engine monetization, unless the secondary ticket exchange, reseller, or website has the express written consent of the venue, team, or artist.

(e) Prohibition on speculative ticket sales. A reseller shall not sell or offer for sale speculative tickets.

(f) Violations. A person that violates a provision of this section commits an unfair and deceptive act in commerce in violation of section 2453 of this title.

Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.

(Committee Vote: 10-0-1)

H. 549

An act relating to eligibility of detainees to obtain a State-issued nondriver identification card

Rep. Luneau of St. Albans City, for the Committee on Corrections and Institutions, recommends that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 23 V.S.A. § 115 is amended to read:

§ 115. NONDRIVER IDENTIFICATION CARDS

* * *

(m)(1) An individual who is sentenced to serve a period of imprisonment of six months or more committed to the custody of the Commissioner of Corrections in a correctional facility and who is eligible for a nondriver identification card under the requirements of this section shall, upon proper application and submission of the documentation required for a non-REAL ID or REAL ID identification card and in advance of release from a correctional facility, be provided with a nondriver identification card for a fee of \$0.00.

(2) As part of reentry planning, the Department of Corrections shall inquire with the individual to be released about the individual's desire to obtain a nondriver identification card, operator's license, or any driving credential replacement learner's permit, if eligible, and inform the individual about the differences, including any costs to the individual.

(3) If the individual desires a nondriver identification card, the Department of Corrections shall coordinate with the Department of Motor

Vehicles to provide an identification card for the individual at the time of release.

(n)(1) If an individual who is detained for six months or more in a correctional facility is eligible for a nondriver identification card under the requirements of this section, the Department of Corrections, as soon as reasonably practicable, shall obtain the documentation required for a non-REAL ID or REAL ID nondriver identification card and shall provide the individual with the documentation at the time of release.

(2) The application shall include the post-release mailing address of the individual and proof that the individual is a resident of Vermont following release from the correctional facility.

(3) Upon proper application and submission of all required documentation following release from the correctional facility, an individual who was detained for six months or more in a correctional facility shall be provided with a nondriver identification card for a fee of \$0.00.

(4) The Department of Corrections shall coordinate with the Department of Motor Vehicles regarding the documentation required for an individual who is detained for six months or more in a correctional facility to obtain a non-REAL ID or REAL ID nondriver identification card.

(o) The Commissioner shall provide a form that, upon the individual's execution, shall serve as a document of an anatomical gift under 18 V.S.A. chapter 110. An indicator shall be placed on the nondriver identification card of any individual who has executed an anatomical gift form in accordance with this section.

(p) As used in this section, "correctional facility" has the same meaning as in 28 V.S.A. § 3.

Sec. 2. 23 V.S.A. § 613 is amended to read:

§ 613. REPLACEMENT LICENSE

* * *

(c)(1) An individual who is sentenced to serve a period of imprisonment of six months or more in a correctional facility who holds an unexpired license issued under the provisions of this subchapter or who held a Vermont operator's license that expired not more than three years prior shall:

(A) be eligible to apply for a replacement license pursuant to the provisions of this section; and

(B) upon proper application and submission of the documentation required for a non-REAL ID or REAL ID identification card and in advance of release from a correctional facility, be provided with a replacement operator's license for a fee of \$0.00.

(2) The application shall include the post-release mailing address of the individual and proof that the individual will be a resident of Vermont following release from the correctional facility.

(3) As part of reentry planning, the Department of Corrections shall inquire with each individual regarding whether the individual would like to obtain a nondriver identification card, operator's license, or replacement learner's permit, if eligible, and shall provide the individual with information regarding required documentation and any associated costs.

(4) If an individual would like to obtain an operator's license pursuant to the provisions of this section and is eligible, the Department of Corrections shall coordinate with the Department of Motor Vehicles to provide an operator's license to the individual at the time the individual is released from the correctional facility.

Sec. 3. 23 V.S.A. § 613 is amended to read:

§ 613. REPLACEMENT LICENSE

* * *

(d)(1) An individual who is detained for six months or more in a correctional facility shall be eligible to apply for a replacement license pursuant to the provisions of this section if, at the time the individual submits an application to obtain a replacement license pursuant to this subsection, the individual:

(A) holds an unexpired license issued under the provisions of this subchapter; or

(B) held a Vermont operator's license that expired not more than three years prior.

(2) If an individual who is detained for six months or more in a correctional facility is eligible for a replacement operator's license under the requirements of this section, the Department of Corrections, as soon as reasonably practicable, shall obtain the documentation required for a non-REAL ID or REAL ID operator's license and shall provide the individual with the documentation at the time of release.

(3) The application shall include the post-release mailing address of the individual and proof that the individual is a resident of Vermont following release from the correctional facility.

(4) Upon proper application and submission of all required documentation following release from the correctional facility, an individual who was detained for six months or more in a correctional facility shall be provided with a replacement operator's license for a fee of \$0.00.

(5) The Department of Corrections shall coordinate with the Department of Motor Vehicles regarding the documentation required for an individual who is detained for six months or more in a correctional facility to obtain a non-REAL ID or REAL ID replacement operator's license.

(e) As used in this section, "correctional facility" has the same meaning as in 28 V.S.A. § 3.

Sec. 4. 23 V.S.A. § 617 is amended to read:

§ 617. LEARNER'S PERMIT

* * *

(d)(1) An applicant shall pay \$24.00 to the Commissioner for each learner's permit or a duplicate or renewal thereof.

* * *

(4) A replacement learner's permit issued pursuant to subsection (g) of this section shall be issued for a fee of \$0.00.

* * *

(g)(1) An individual sentenced to serve a period of imprisonment of six months or more in a correctional facility who holds an unexpired learner's permit issued under the provisions of this section or who held a learner's permit issued under the provisions of this section that expired not more than two years prior shall:

(A) be eligible to apply for a replacement learner's permit pursuant to the provisions of this section; and

(B) upon proper application and submission of all required documentation in advance of release from a correctional facility, be provided with a replacement learner's permit upon release.

(2) The application shall include the post-release mailing address of the individual and proof that the individual will be a resident of Vermont following release from the correctional facility.

(3) As part of reentry planning, the Department of Corrections shall inquire with each individual regarding whether the individual would like to obtain a nondriver identification card, operator's license, or replacement learner's permit, if eligible, and shall provide the individual with information regarding required documentation and any associated costs.

(4) If an individual would like to obtain a replacement learner's permit pursuant to the provisions of this section and is eligible, the Department of Corrections shall coordinate with the Department of Motor Vehicles to provide a replacement learner's permit to the individual at the time the individual is released from the correctional facility.

Sec. 5. 23 V.S.A. § 617 is amended to read:

§ 617. LEARNER'S PERMIT

* * *

(h)(1) An individual who is detained for six months or more in a correctional facility shall be eligible to apply for a replacement learner's permit pursuant to the provisions of this section if, at the time the individual submits an application to obtain a replacement learner's permit pursuant to this subsection, the individual:

(A) holds an unexpired learner's permit issued under the provisions of this section; or

(B) held a learner's permit issued under the provisions of this section that expired not more than two years prior.

(2) If an individual who is detained for six months or more in a correctional facility is eligible for a replacement learner's permit under the requirements of this section, the Department of Corrections, as soon as reasonably practicable, shall obtain the documentation required for a learner's permit and shall provide the individual with the documentation at the time of release from the correctional facility.

(3) The application shall include the post-release mailing address of the individual and proof that the individual is a resident of Vermont following release from the correctional facility.

(4) Upon proper application and submission of all required documentation following release from the correctional facility, an individual who was detained for six months or more in a correctional facility shall be provided with a replacement learner's permit for a fee of \$0.00.

(5) The Department of Corrections shall coordinate with the Department of Motor Vehicles regarding the documentation required for an individual who

is detained for six months or more in a correctional facility to obtain a replacement learner's permit.

(i) As used in this section, "correctional facility" has the same meaning as in 28 V.S.A. § 3.

Sec. 6. 28 V.S.A. § 102 is amended to read:

§ 102. COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTIONS; APPOINTMENT;
POWERS; RESPONSIBILITIES

* * *

(c) The Commissioner is charged with the following responsibilities:

* * *

(25) To coordinate with the Department of Motor Vehicles to provide eligible individuals with nondriver identification cards and documentation pursuant to 23 V.S.A. § 115(m) and (n), replacement operator's licenses and documentation pursuant to 23 V.S.A. § 613(c) and (d), and replacement learner's permits and documentation pursuant to 23 V.S.A. § 617(g) and (h).

Sec. 7. EFFECTIVE DATES

(a) This section and Secs. 2 (sentenced individuals' operator's licenses), 4 (sentenced individuals' learner's permits), and 6 (DOC Commissioner responsibilities) shall take effect on July 1, 2026.

(b) Secs. 1 (nondriver identification cards), 3 (detained individuals' operator's licenses), and 5 (detained individuals' learner's permits) shall take effect on January 1, 2027.

and that after passage the title of the bill be amended to read: "An act relating to eligibility of sentenced or detained individuals to obtain a State-issued nondriver identification card, replacement operator's license, or replacement learner's permit"

(Committee Vote: 11-0-0)

Senate Proposal of Amendment

H. 545

An act relating to issuing immunization recommendations

The Senate proposes to the House to amend the bill by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

* * * Effective on Passage until July 1, 2031: Commissioner of Health's
Immunization Recommendations * * *

Sec. 1. 18 V.S.A. § 1130 is amended to read:

§ 1130. IMMUNIZATION FUNDING

(a) As used in this section:

* * *

(4) “Immunizations Recommended immunization” means ~~vaccines~~ a vaccine or other immunizing agent that provides protection against a particular disease or pathogen and the application of the ~~vaccines~~ immunization as recommended by the practice guidelines for children and adults established by the ~~Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)~~ Commissioner pursuant to section 1130a of this title.

* * *

(b)(1) The Department of ~~Health~~ shall administer an immunization program with the goals of ensuring universal access to ~~vaccines~~ recommended immunizations for all Vermonters at no charge to the individual and reducing the cost at which the State may purchase ~~vaccines~~ recommended immunizations. The Department shall purchase, provide for the distribution of, and monitor the use of ~~vaccines~~ recommended immunizations as provided for in this subsection and subsection (c) of this section. The cost of the ~~vaccines~~ recommended immunizations and an administrative surcharge shall be reimbursed by health insurers as provided for in subsections (e) and (f) of this section.

(2) The Department shall solicit, facilitate, and supervise the participation of health care professionals, health care facilities, and health insurers in the immunization program in order to accomplish the State’s goal of universal access to recommended immunizations at the lowest practicable cost to individuals, insurers, and State health care programs.

(3) The Department shall gather and analyze data regarding the immunization program for the purpose of ensuring its quality and maximizing protection of Vermonters against diseases preventable by ~~vaccination~~ immunization.

(c) The Department shall determine which recommended immunizations shall be purchased under the program. The immunization program shall purchase ~~vaccines~~ recommended immunizations consistent with the goals of the program from the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or another vendor at the lowest available cost. ~~The Department shall determine annually which vaccines for adults shall be purchased under the program.~~

(d) The immunization program shall provide for distribution of the vaccines recommended immunizations to health care professionals and health care facilities for administration to patients.

(e) Health insurers shall remit to the Department the cost of vaccines recommended immunizations, as established by the Commissioner of Health based on the recommendation of the Immunization Funding Advisory Committee established in subsection (g) of this section.

(f) The Department shall charge each health insurer a surcharge for the costs and administration of the immunization program. The surcharge shall be deposited into an existing special fund and used solely for the purpose of administering the program.

(g)(1) The Immunization Funding Advisory Committee is established to provide the Commissioner of Health with an annual per-member per-month cost for vaccines recommended immunizations for the pediatric population, an annual per-member per-month cost for vaccines recommended immunizations for the adult population, and a recommendation for the amount of the yearly vaccine immunization assessment. The Committee shall comprise the following nine members:

(A) the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy or designee;

(B) the Executive Director of the Green Mountain Care Board or designee;

(C) a representative, appointed by the Director of the Vermont Blueprint for Health, ~~nominated by the Director of the Blueprint and appointed by the Commissioner of Health~~;

(D) three representatives of health insurers, one ~~from each of each~~ appointed by the State's largest three private health insurers, as determined by the number of covered lives, ~~appointed by the Commissioner of Health~~;

(E) a representative, appointed by the Vermont chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, ~~Vermont chapter, appointed by the Commissioner of Health~~;

(F) a representative, appointed by the Vermont chapter of the American Academy of Family Medicine, ~~Vermont chapter, appointed by the Commissioner of Health~~; and

(G) a representative of employers that self-insure for health coverage, appointed by the Commissioner of Health.

(2) The Committee shall select a chair from among its members at the first meeting of each calendar year. The Committee shall receive administrative and technical support from the Department of Health.

(3) ~~By~~ On or before January 1 of each year, the Committee shall provide to the Commissioner the annual fiscal assessment and the per-member per-month cost for pediatric ~~vaccines~~ recommended immunizations based on the total number of pediatric covered lives reported by health insurers and the per-member per-month cost for adult ~~vaccines~~ recommended immunizations based on the total number of adult covered lives reported by health insurers.

(h) If ~~federal~~ purchase requirements do not further the goal of ensuring universal access to ~~vaccines~~ recommended immunizations for all, the Commissioner may, following consultation with the Immunization Funding Advisory Committee, discontinue the program with six months' advance notice to all health care professionals and to all health insurers with Vermont covered lives.

(i) The Department may adopt rules under 3 V.S.A. chapter 25 to implement this section.

Sec. 2. 18 V.S.A. § 1130a is added to read:

§ 1130a. RECOMMENDED IMMUNIZATIONS

(a) The Commissioner shall periodically issue recommendations regarding:

(1) which immunizations children and adults are recommended to receive;

(2) the age at which each immunization is recommended to be given;

(3) the number of immunization doses that are recommended to be administered;

(4) the recommended amount of time between doses of an immunization; and

(5) any other recommendations regarding immunizations necessary to promote the maintenance of public health and disease prevention in the State.

(b) Prior to issuing recommendations under subsection (a) of this section, the Commissioner shall:

(1) consult with the Vermont Immunization Advisory Council, established under section 1131 of this title; and

(2) consider recommendations for immunizations issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization

Practices (ACIP), the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP), the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG), the American College of Physicians (ACP), and any other organizations the Commissioner may deem necessary.

(c) A health care professional who prescribes, dispenses, or administers an immunization in accordance with the recommendations issued pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall be immune from civil and administrative liability for immunization-caused adverse events, unless the health care professional's actions regarding prescribing, dispensing, or administering an immunization constituted gross negligence, recklessness, or intentional misconduct.

(d) The Commissioner may issue a standing order authorizing health care professionals, including pharmacists, to prescribe, dispense, or administer recommended immunizations, or any combination thereof, to the extent that prescribing, dispensing, or administering recommended immunizations is within the scope of the health care professional's practice.

(e)(1) The Department shall prominently display information pertaining to recommended immunizations and other relevant information on its website, including how to access recommended immunizations.

(2) Any documents produced by the Department about the recommended immunizations shall include a disclosure if the recommended immunizations differ from the recommendations of the Vermont Immunization Advisory Council.

(f) As used in this section, "health care professional" and "recommended immunization" have the same meanings as in section 1130 of this title.

Sec. 3. 18 V.S.A. § 1131 is amended to read:

§ 1131. VERMONT IMMUNIZATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

(a) Creation. There is created the Vermont Immunization Advisory Council for the purpose of providing education policy, medical, and epidemiological expertise and advice to the Department with regard to the safety of immunizations and immunization schedules.

(b) Membership. The Council shall be composed of the following members:

(1) ~~a representative~~ the executive officer of the Vermont Board of Medical Practice, ~~appointed by the Governor or designee;~~

(2) ~~the Secretaries~~ Secretary of Human Services ~~and of or designee;~~

- ~~(3)~~ the Secretary of Education or their designees designee;
- ~~(3)~~~~(4)~~ a representative of public schools, appointed by the Governor;
- ~~(4)~~~~(5)~~ the State epidemiologist Epidemiologist or designee;
- ~~(6)~~ the Department of Health's Immunization Program Manager or designee;
- ~~(7)~~ a practicing pediatrician, appointed by the Governor;
- ~~(8)~~ two individuals who are professors, researchers, or physicians, or any combination of these individuals, with expertise in infectious disease and human immunizations, appointed by the Governor;
- ~~(9)~~ a family or internal medicine physician, appointed by the Governor;
- ~~(5)~~~~(10)~~ a representative of both public and independent schools, appointed by the Governor; and practicing advanced practice registered nurse licensed pursuant to 26 V.S.A. chapter 28, appointed by the Governor;
- ~~(11)~~ a practicing pharmacist licensed pursuant 26 V.S.A. chapter 36, appointed by the Governor; and
- ~~(6)~~~~(12)~~ any other persons deemed necessary by the Commissioner.

~~(c) Powers and duties Duties.~~

~~(1)~~ The Council shall:

~~(1)~~~~(A)~~ review and make recommendations regarding the State's immunization schedule for attendance in schools and child care facilities; and

~~(2)~~~~(B)~~ provide any other advice and expertise requested by the Commissioner, including advice regarding recommended immunizations as defined in section 1130 of this title.

~~(2)~~ The Secretary of Education or designee and representative of public schools shall not vote on advice regarding recommended immunizations as defined in section 1130 of this title.

~~(d) Assistance. The Council shall have the administrative, and technical, and legal assistance of the Department.~~

~~(e) Meetings.~~

~~(1)~~ The Council shall convene at the call of the Commissioner, but ~~no~~ not less than once each year.

~~(2)~~ The Council shall select a chair from among its members at the first meeting who shall not be the Commissioner.

(3) A majority of the membership shall constitute a quorum.

* * * Effective on Passage until July 1, 2031: Insurance Coverage for
Commissioner of Health's Recommended Immunizations * * *

Sec. 4. 8 V.S.A. § 4042 is amended to read:

§ 4042. GROUP INSURANCE POLICIES; REQUIRED POLICY
PROVISIONS

* * *

(b) Protections for covered individuals.

* * *

(4) No cost sharing for preventive services.

(A) A group insurance policy shall not impose any co-payment,
coinsurance, or deductible requirements for:

* * *

(ii) recommended immunizations for routine use in children,
adolescents, and adults that have in effect a recommendation from the
Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention with respect to the individual involved as defined in
18 V.S.A. § 1130;

* * *

Sec. 5. 33 V.S.A. § 1811 is amended to read:

§ 1811. HEALTH BENEFIT PLANS FOR INDIVIDUALS AND SMALL
EMPLOYERS

* * *

(d)(1) Guaranteed issue.

* * *

(5)(A) No cost sharing for preventive services. A health benefit plan
shall not impose any co-payment, coinsurance, or deductible requirements for:

* * *

(ii) recommended immunizations for routine use in children,
adolescents, and adults that have in effect a recommendation from the
Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention with respect to the individual involved as defined in 18
V.S.A. § 1130;

* * *

* * * Effective on Passage until July 1, 2031: Pharmacist and Pharmacy Technician Authority under the Commissioner of Health's Immunization Recommendations * * *

Sec. 6. 26 V.S.A. § 2023 is amended to read:

§ 2023. CLINICAL PHARMACY; PRESCRIBING

* * *

(b) A pharmacist may prescribe in the following contexts:

* * *

(2) State protocol.

(A) A pharmacist may prescribe, order, or administer in a manner consistent with valid State protocols that are approved by the Commissioner of Health after consultation with the Director of Professional Regulation and the Board and the ability for public comment:

- (i) opioid antagonists;
- (ii) epinephrine auto-injectors;
- (iii) tobacco cessation products;
- (iv) tuberculin purified protein derivative products;
- (v) self-administered hormonal contraceptives, including subcutaneous depot medroxyprogesterone acetate;
- (vi) dietary fluoride supplements;
- (vii) recommended immunizations as defined in 18 V.S.A. § 1130 for patients 18 years of age or older, ~~vaccinations recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and administered consistently with the ACIP-approved immunization schedules, as may be amended from time to time;~~
- (viii) for patients five years of age or older, influenza ~~vaccine~~ immunization, COVID-19 ~~vaccine~~ immunization, and subsequent formulations or combination products thereof consistent with the recommendations established in accordance with 18 V.S.A. § 1130a;

* * *

Sec. 7. 26 V.S.A. § 2042a is amended to read:

§ 2042a. PHARMACY TECHNICIANS; QUALIFICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION

* * *

(c) Pharmacy technicians shall only administer immunizations:

(1) when a licensed pharmacist who is trained to immunize is present and able to assist with the immunization, as needed;

(2) pursuant to:

(A) a valid prescription by a practitioner;

(B) a standing order made by the Commissioner of Health; or

(C) a protocol approved by the Commissioner of Health under subdivision 2023(b)(2)(A) of this title; and

(3) to patients:

(A) 18 years of age or older, as established in subdivision 2023(b)(2)(A)(vii) and the resulting State protocol; and

~~(2)(B) to patients five years of age or older, seeking an influenza vaccine immunization, COVID-19 vaccine immunization, and subsequent formulations or combination products thereof, in accordance with subdivision 2023(b)(2)(A)(viii) and the resulting State protocol;~~

~~(3) pursuant to the schedules and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' recommendations for the administration of immunizations, as those recommendations may be updated from time to time; and~~

~~(4) when a licensed pharmacist who is trained to immunize is present and able to assist with the immunization, as needed.~~

(d) Pharmacy technicians shall administer only those immunizations that:

(1) ~~are recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP); and~~

~~(2) licensed pharmacists are permitted to administer under the State clinical pharmacy protocol, as established in subdivision 2023(b)(2) of this title.~~

(e) Pharmacy technicians performing COVID-19 tests shall do so only:

(1) when a licensed pharmacist who is trained to perform COVID-19 tests is present and able to assist with the test, as needed;

(2) in accordance with a State protocol adopted under subdivision 2023(b)(2)(A)(x) of this title; and

(3) in accordance with rules adopted by the Board.

~~(f)~~(e) The Board may adopt rules regarding the administration of immunizations and the performance of COVID-19 tests by pharmacy technicians.

* * * Effective on July 1, 2031: Restoring Certain Immunization
Recommendation Processes * * *

Sec. 8. 18 V.S.A. § 1130 is amended to read:

§ 1130. IMMUNIZATION FUNDING

(a) As used in this section:

* * *

(4) “~~Recommended immunization~~ Immunization” means a vaccine or other immunizing agent that provides protection against a particular disease or pathogen and the application of the immunizations as recommended by the practice guidelines for children and adults established by the ~~Commissioner pursuant to section 1130a of this title~~ Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

* * *

(b)(1) The Department of Health shall administer an immunization program with the goals of ensuring universal access to ~~recommended~~ immunizations at no charge to the individual and reducing the cost at which the State may purchase ~~recommended~~ immunizations. The Department shall purchase, provide for the distribution of, and monitor the use of ~~recommended~~ immunizations as provided for in this subsection and subsection (c) of this section. The cost of the ~~recommended~~ immunizations and an administrative surcharge shall be reimbursed by health insurers as provided for in subsections (e) and (f) of this section.

(2) The Department shall solicit, facilitate, and supervise the participation of health care professionals, health care facilities, and health insurers in the immunization program in order to accomplish the State’s goal of universal access to ~~recommended~~ immunizations at the lowest practicable cost to individuals, insurers, and State health care programs.

(3) The Department shall gather and analyze data regarding the immunization program for the purpose of ensuring its quality and maximizing protection of Vermonters against diseases preventable by immunization.

(c) ~~The Department shall determine which recommended immunizations shall be purchased under the program.~~ The immunization program shall purchase ~~recommended~~ immunizations ~~consistent with the goals of the program~~ from the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or

~~another vendor~~ at the lowest available cost. The Department shall determine annually which immunizations for adults shall be purchased under the program.

(d) The immunization program shall provide for distribution of the ~~recommended~~ immunizations to health care professionals and health care facilities for administration to patients.

(e) Health insurers shall remit to the Department the cost of ~~recommended~~ immunizations, as established by the Commissioner based on the recommendation of the Immunization Funding Advisory Committee established in subsection (g) of this section.

(f) The Department shall charge each health insurer a surcharge for the costs and administration of the immunization program. The surcharge shall be deposited into an existing special fund and used solely for the purpose of administering the program.

(g)(1) The Immunization Funding Advisory Committee is established to provide the Commissioner with an annual per-member per-month cost for ~~recommended~~ immunizations for the pediatric population, an annual per-member per-month cost for ~~recommended~~ immunizations for the adult population, and a recommendation for the amount of the yearly immunization assessment. The Committee shall comprise the following nine members:

* * *

(2) The Committee shall select a chair from among its members at the first meeting of each calendar year. The Committee shall receive administrative and technical support from the Department.

(3) On or before January 1 of each year, the Committee shall provide to the Commissioner the annual fiscal assessment and the per-member per-month cost for pediatric ~~recommended~~ immunizations based on the total number of pediatric covered lives reported by health insurers and the per-member per-month cost for adult ~~recommended~~ immunizations based on the total number of adult covered lives reported by health insurers.

(h) If federal purchase requirements do not further the goal of ensuring universal access to ~~recommended~~ immunizations for all, the Commissioner may, following consultation with the Immunization Funding Advisory Committee, discontinue the program with six months' advance notice to all health care professionals and to all health insurers with Vermont covered lives.

(i) The Department may adopt rules under 3 V.S.A. chapter 25 to implement this section.

Sec. 9. 18 V.S.A. § 1131 is amended to read:

§ 1131. VERMONT IMMUNIZATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

(a) Creation. There is created the Vermont Immunization Advisory Council for the purpose of providing education policy, medical, and epidemiological expertise and advice to the Department with regard to the safety of immunizations and immunization schedules.

* * *

(c) Duties.

(+) The Council shall:

(A)(1) review and make recommendations regarding the State's immunization schedule for attendance in schools and child care facilities; and

(B)(2) provide any other advice and expertise requested by the Commissioner, ~~including advice regarding recommended immunizations as defined in section 1130 of this title.~~

~~(2) The Secretary of Education or designee and representative of public schools shall not vote on advice regarding recommended immunizations as defined in section 1130 of this title.~~

* * *

(e) Meetings.

(1) The Council shall convene at the call of the Commissioner, but not less than once each year.

(2) The Council shall select a chair from among its members at the first meeting ~~who shall not be the Commissioner.~~

(3) A majority of the membership shall constitute a quorum.

* * * Effective on July 1, 2031: Restoring the Current Insurance Coverage for Immunizations in Effect Prior to Passage * * *

Sec. 10. 8 V.S.A. § 4042 is amended to read:

§ 4042. GROUP INSURANCE POLICIES; REQUIRED POLICY PROVISIONS

* * *

(b) Protections for covered individuals.

* * *

(4) No cost sharing for preventive services.

(A) A group insurance policy shall not impose any co-payment, coinsurance, or deductible requirements for:

* * *

(ii) recommended immunizations as defined in 18 V.S.A. § 1130 for routine use in children, adolescents, and adults that have in effect a recommendation from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention with respect to the individual involved;

* * *

Sec. 11. 33 V.S.A. § 1811 is amended to read:

§ 1811. HEALTH BENEFIT PLANS FOR INDIVIDUALS AND SMALL EMPLOYERS

* * *

(d)(1) Guaranteed issue.

(A) A registered carrier shall guarantee acceptance of all individuals and their dependents for any health benefit plan offered by the carrier in the individual market, regardless of any outstanding premium amount a subscriber may owe to the carrier for coverage provided during the previous plan year.

* * *

(5)(A) No cost sharing for preventive services. A health benefit plan shall not impose any co-payment, coinsurance, or deductible requirements for:

* * *

(ii) recommended immunizations as defined in 18 V.S.A. § 1130 for routine use in children, adolescents, and adults that have in effect a recommendation from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention with respect to the individual involved;

* * *

* * * Effective on July 1, 2031: Restoring Current Pharmacist and Pharmacy Technician Authority in Effect Prior to Passage * * *

Sec. 12. 26 V.S.A. § 2023 is amended to read:

§ 2023. CLINICAL PHARMACY; PRESCRIBING

* * *

(b) A pharmacist may prescribe in the following contexts:

* * *

(2) State protocol.

(A) A pharmacist may prescribe, order, or administer in a manner consistent with valid State protocols that are approved by the Commissioner of Health after consultation with the Director of Professional Regulation and the Board and the ability for public comment:

- (i) opioid antagonists;
- (ii) epinephrine auto-injectors;
- (iii) tobacco cessation products;
- (iv) tuberculin purified protein derivative products;
- (v) self-administered hormonal contraceptives, including subcutaneous depot medroxyprogesterone acetate;
- (vi) dietary fluoride supplements;
- (vii) ~~recommended immunizations as defined in 18 V.S.A. § 1130~~ for patients 18 years of age or older, vaccinations recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and administered consistently with the ACIP-approved immunization schedules, as may be amended from time to time;
- (viii) for patients five years of age or older, ~~influenza immunization vaccine, COVID-19 immunization vaccine, and subsequent formulations or combination products thereof consistent with the recommendations established in accordance with 18 V.S.A. § 1130a;~~ influenza immunization vaccine, COVID-19 immunization vaccine, and subsequent formulations or combination products thereof consistent with the recommendations established in accordance with 18 V.S.A. § 1130a;

* * *

Sec. 13. [Deleted.]

* * * Effective on July 1, 2031: Repeal of Immunization Recommendations

* * *

Sec. 14. REPEAL; IMMUNIZATION RECOMMENDATIONS

18 V.S.A. § 1130a (recommended immunizations) is repealed on July 1, 2031.

* * * Effective Dates * * *

Sec. 15. EFFECTIVE DATES

- (a) This section, Secs. 1–7, and Sec. 14 shall take effect on passage.
- (b) Secs. 8–13 shall take effect on July 1, 2031.

CONSENT CALENDAR FOR NOTICE

Concurrent Resolutions for Adoption Under Joint Rules 16a - 16d

The following concurrent resolutions have been introduced for approval by the Senate and House and will be adopted automatically unless a Senator or Representative requests floor consideration in that member's chamber prior to adjournment of the next legislative day. Requests for floor consideration in either chamber should be communicated to the Senate Secretary's Office or the House Clerk's Office, as applicable. For text of resolutions, see Addendum to House Calendar.

H.C.R. 212

House concurrent resolution honoring the amazing Brooks Memorial Library Director Starr LaTronica

H.C.R. 213

House concurrent resolution recognizing March 2026 as Social Work Month in Vermont

H.C.R. 214

House concurrent resolution celebrating the essential contributions of Irish American patriots in the struggle for our nation's independence

H.C.R. 215

House concurrent resolution congratulating Ben Ogden of Landgrove on winning two 2026 Winter Olympics cross-country skiing silver medals

H.C.R. 216

House concurrent resolution honoring Margo Caulfield for her exemplary and enormously appreciated volunteer leadership in the Town of Cavendish

For Informational Purposes

CROSSOVER DATES

The Joint Rules Committee established the following crossover dates:

(1) All **Senate/House** bills must be reported out of the last committee of reference (including the Committees on Appropriations and Finance/Ways and Means, except as provided below in (2) and the exceptions listed below) on or before **Friday, March 13, 2026**, and filed with the Secretary/Clerk so they may be placed on the Calendar for Notice the next legislative day – Committee bills must be voted out of Committee by **Friday, March 13, 2026**.

(2) All **Senate/House** bills referred pursuant to Senate Rule 31 or House Rule 35(a) to the Committees on Appropriations and Finance/Ways and Means must be reported out by the last of those committees on or before **Friday, March 20, 2026**, and filed with the Secretary/Clerk so they may be placed on the Calendar for Notice the next legislative day.

Exceptions to the foregoing deadlines include the major money bills (the general Appropriations bill (“The Big Bill”), the Transportation Capital bill, the Capital Construction bill, and the Fee/Revenue bills).

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION (H.C.R.) PROCESS

Joint Rules 16a–16d provide the procedure for the General Assembly to adopt concurrent resolutions pursuant to the Consent Calendar. Here are the steps for Representatives to introduce an H.C.R. and to have it ceremonially read during a House session:

1. Meet with or email Legislative Counselor Michael Chernick regarding your H.C.R. draft request. Come prepared with an idea and any relevant supporting documents.
2. Have a date in mind if you want a ceremonial reading. You should communicate with Counselor Chernick **at least two weeks prior** to the week you want your ceremonial reading to happen.
3. Counselor Chernick will draft your H.C.R., and Resolutions Editor and Coordinator Jill Pralle will edit it. Upon completion of this process, a paper or electronic copy will be released to you. If a paper copy is released to you, a sponsor sign-out sheet will also be included.
4. Please submit a final sponsor list (with all sponsors listed) to Counselor Chernick by paper *or* electronically, but not both.
5. The final list of sponsors needs to be submitted, by email *or* on a paper sign-out sheet, to Counselor Chernick **not later than 1:00 p.m. the Wednesday of the week prior** to the H.C.R.’s appearance on the Consent Calendar.
6. The Office of Legislative Counsel will then send your H.C.R. to the House Clerk’s Office for incorporation into the Consent Calendar and House Calendar Addendum for the following week.
7. The week that your H.C.R. is on the Consent Calendar, any presentation copies that you requested will be mailed or available for pickup on Friday, after the House and Senate adjourn, which is when your H.C.R. is adopted pursuant to Joint Rules.

8. Your H.C.R. can be ceremonially read during a House session once it is adopted, meaning it must have been adopted through the House Consent Calendar not later than the week prior to your requested ceremonial reading date. Contact Second Assistant Clerk Courtney Reckord to confirm your requested ceremonial reading date.
9. **A Note:** If there is a **specific date, week, or month that your resolution must be read** (e.g. to designate a specified period of time or to recognize a group on a certain day), please inform Second Assistant Clerk Courtney Reckord as soon as possible, so she can reserve that date in advance. You do not need to have the resolution drafted by then.

JOINT FISCAL COMMITTEE NOTICES

Grants and Positions that have been submitted to the Joint Fiscal Committee by the Administration, under 32 V.S.A. §5(b)(3)(D):

JFO #3271: \$218,385.00 to the Vermont Center for Crime Victim Services from the U.S. Department of Justice. Funds will be used to consolidate data into one case management system. *[Received January 27, 2026]*

JFO #3272: \$195,053,740.00 to the Vermont Agency of Human Services, Central Office from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Participation in the Rural Health Transformation Plan (RHTP) will help to ensure long-term health care system sustainability in Vermont. This grant includes two (2) limited-service positions (LSP): one (1) Health Care Reform Integration Manager to the Office of Health Care Reform and one (1) Financial Manager II to the Agency of Human Services Central Office. Both limited positions are expected to last through 9/30/2031. *[Received January 27, 2026]*