

SEN. SETH BONGARTZ, VICE CHAIR
SEN. SCOTT BECK
SEN. ROBERT PLUNKETT
SEN. DAVID WEEKS



REP. TREVOR SQUIRRELL, CHAIR
REP. MARK HIGLEY
REP. CAROL ODE
REP. LARRY SATCOWITZ

STATE OF VERMONT

Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules (LCAR)

ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

MINUTES

March 26, 2026

The Joint Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules met on Thursday, March 26, 2026, beginning at 8:00 a.m. in room 10 of the State House Building in Montpelier, Vermont.

The following members were present:

Sen. Seth Bongartz, Vice Chair
Sen. Scott Beck
Sen. Robert Plunkett
Sen. David Weeks

Rep. Trevor Squirrell, Chair
Rep. Mark Higley
Rep. Carol Ode
Rep. Larry Satcowitz

Staff present:

Bradley Showman
Lindsey Schreier

Committee Counsel
Committee Assistant

Approval of Prior Minutes

On motion of Sen. Weeks, the March 19, 2026, meeting minutes were approved.

Review of Rules

The Committee reviewed the following rules:

25-P021 - Rules for the Designation and Operation of Home Health Agencies. Stuart Schurr, General Counsel, Pam Cota, Director of Survey and Certification, and Angela McMann, Director of Adult Services, of the Department of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living, explained the rule and answered questions from the Committee.

This rule amendment changes certain “designated services” that home health agencies are required to provide. This amendment would remove Choices for Care services, including personal care, respite, companionship, and homemaker services, from the rule’s definition of “designated services” so that home health agencies are not out of compliance with the rule if they do not provide those services.

On motion of Rep. Ode, the Committee approved the rule. Sen. Weeks voted to oppose approving the rule.

25-P047 - Vermont Residential Building Energy Standards (RBES) Amendments. Richard Faesy, Principal, Energy Futures Group, Andy Shapiro, President, Energy Balance, Inc., Jim Bradley, Project Developer/Manager, Hayward Design Build, LLC, and Sandra Vitzthum, Member, Public Policy Committee, The American Institute of Architects, Vermont Chapter, testified before the Committee.

This rule amendment updates the RBES that regulate aspects of the design and construction of residential buildings that relate to the efficient use of energy. This amendment permits architects, builders, and other building professionals to follow either the 2020 RBES or the 2024 RBES for purposes of complying with Vermont's residential building energy code.

The Committee permitted the witnesses to testify on this rule and the following rule and the Committee heard both rules together.

25-P048 - Vermont Commercial Building Energy Standards (CBES) Amendments. Richard Faesy, Principal, Energy Futures Group, Andy Shapiro, President, Energy Balance, Inc., Jim Bradley, Project Developer/Manager, Hayward Design Build, LLC, and Sandra Vitzthum, Member, Public Policy Committee, The American Institute of Architects, Vermont Chapter, testified before the Committee.

This rule amendment updates the CBES that regulate aspects of the design and construction of commercial buildings that relate to the efficient use of energy. This amendment permits architects, builders, and other building professionals to follow either the 2020 CBES or the 2024 CBES for purposes of complying with Vermont's commercial building energy code.

The Committee continued Rule 25-P048 and Rule 25-P047 to the April 2, 2026, meeting.

24-P042 - General Assistance Emergency Housing Assistance Rules. The Committee requested that the Department for Children and Families (DCF) testify regarding this rule. A representative from DCF did not appear.

Adjournment and Next Meeting

The Committee adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for April 9, 2026, beginning at 8:00 a.m. in room 10 of the State House Building in Montpelier, Vermont.

Respectfully submitted,

Bradley Showman
Committee Counsel

cc: APA Clerk, Secretary of State
ICAR, Agency of Administration