

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
Secretary of State – 3 V.S.A. Chapter 5			
1	3 V.S.A. § 102a	<p>§ 102a. Facsimile signature of Secretary of State A facsimile of the signature of the Secretary of State imprinted by or at his or her <u>the Secretary's</u> direction upon any certification issued under Title 11 or 11A pursuant to law, upon any attestation required of the Secretary by law, or upon any certification of official documents or records of which the Secretary is custodian, shall have the same validity as the Secretary of State's written signature.</p>	Recognize broader scope of applicability
2	3 V.S.A. § 133	<p>§ 133. Business registration When professional services are required by law to be performed in or by a business entity registered with the Office, the business entity shall: (1) register with the Corporations <u>Business Services</u> Division of the Office of the Secretary of State, if required by law; and (2) separately register with the Office each name under which the business entity will conduct business, register licensees, and advertise in Vermont.</p>	OPR registration; corrects name of Business Services Division
Title 11			
3	Title 11		
General Cooperative Corporations and Cooperative Associations – 11 V.S.A. chapter 7			
3	11 V.S.A. Chapter 7	Chapter 7: Cooperatives <u>General Cooperative Corporations and Cooperative Associations</u>	Update titles to reflect business organization names
3	11 V.S.A. Chapter 7, subchapter 1	Subchapter 1: Provisions Relating to Cooperatives Formed Under General Corporation Law <u>General Cooperative Corporations</u>	Update title to reflect organization addressed in this subchapter
3	11 V.S.A. § 981	<p>§ 981. <u>General cooperative corporation; Use use of "cooperative"</u> A corporation formed under Title 11A shall not have the word "cooperative" or any abbreviation thereof as part of its name, unless the corporation is a worker cooperative corporation organized under chapter 8 of this title, a cooperative housing corporation organized under chapter 14 of this title, or <u>a general cooperative corporation that includes in its</u> the articles of incorporation contain all of the following provisions: (1) Each shareholder shall have only one vote in all matters pertaining to the management of the corporation. (2) The interest or dividend on the paid up capital stock of the corporation shall not exceed six percent per annum.</p>	Reflect the name limitations for "cooperative" and substantive requirements for a general cooperative corporation

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		<p>(3) There shall be set aside annually not less than ten percent of the net profits of the corporation for a reserve fund until there is accumulated a fund of not less than 50 percent of the paid up capital stock.</p> <p>(4) The remainder of the earnings, or any part thereof, shall be distributed by a uniform dividend upon the amount of purchases or sales through the corporation by the shareholders, or the amount of raw material furnished to, or business done through, the corporation by the shareholders; and such profits or earnings shall be distributed as often as once in 12 months.</p> <p>(5) Not more than ten percent of the capital stock of such corporation shall be owned by any one member.</p> <p>(6) Certificates of stock in cooperative corporations shall contain a statement on the face thereof that the holder is entitled to only one vote thereon.</p>	
3	11 V.S.A. chapter 7, subchapter 2	Subchapter 2: The Cooperative Marketing Act; Cooperative Associations	Reflect organization type addressed in this subchapter
3	11 V.S.A. § 991	<p>§ 991. Definitions In this subchapter, unless the context or subject matter otherwise requires:</p> <p>(1) “Agricultural products” includes horticultural, viticultural, forestry, dairy, livestock, poultry, bee, and any farm products.</p> <p>(2) “Association” means any corporation <u>nonprofit cooperative association</u> organized under this chapter.</p> <p>(3) “Associations” organized hereunder means nonprofit <u>cooperative</u> associations.</p> <p>(4) “Consumers’ cooperative” means a corporation <u>an association</u> organized under this chapter for the acquisition and distribution for the benefit of ultimate consumers of property, goods, commodities, or services.</p> <p>(5) “Handcraft product” means any product fashioned primarily by hand with the final form and its characteristics shaped by hand and produced in the home or a small craft center by the artisan or craftsman in a skilled or artistic process rather than in an assembly line technique.</p> <p>(6) “Marketing cooperative” means a corporation <u>an association</u> organized under this chapter for the marketing of agricultural or handcraft products.</p> <p>(7) “Member” includes actual members of associations without capital stock and holders of common stock in associations organized with capital stock.</p> <p>(8) “Person” includes individuals, firms, partnerships, corporations and associations.</p> <p>(9) “Railroad cooperative” means any corporation <u>association</u> organized under this chapter for the organization, acquisition, and operation of a general transportation business by railroad, including truck, bus, air, and water transportation subsidiaries of the railroad.</p>	Use consistent terminology for association
3	11 V.S.A. § 994(1)	<p>§ 994. Powers Each association incorporated under this subchapter shall have the following powers:</p>	

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		<p>(1) In the case of a marketing cooperative, the power to engage in any activity in connection with the purchasing, marketing, selling, preserving, harvesting, drying, processing, manufacturing, canning, packing, grading, storing, handling, or utilization of any agricultural or handcraft products or the manufacturing or marketing of the by products <u>byproducts</u> thereof, any activity in connection with the purchase, hiring, or use by its members of supplies, machinery or equipment, and in financing any of the aforementioned activities. However, a marketing association shall not handle agricultural or handcraft products of nonmembers to an extent greater in value than the products of its own members which <u>that</u> it handles. In the case of a consumers' cooperative, the power to engage in any one or more lawful mode or modes of acquiring, producing, building, operating, manufacturing, furnishing, exchanging, or distributing any type of property, commodities, goods, or services for the primary and mutual benefit of the patrons of the association, or their patrons, if any, as ultimate consumers. In the case of a railroad cooperative, to engage in any activity in connection with the organization, acquisition, and operation of a subsidiary transportation business, whether by means of railroad, truck, water carrier, air, or other. Such a corporation formed under this subchapter shall have any other rights, powers, and privileges granted by the laws of this State to corporations in a like business organized under the general laws of this State. ***</p> <p>(10) To do everything necessary, suitable, or proper for the accomplishment of any of the purposes or the attainment of any of the objects herein enumerated, or conducive to or expedient for the interest or benefit of the association, and to contract accordingly; to exercise and possess all powers, rights, and privileges necessary or incidental to the purposes for which the association is organized or to the activities in which it is engaged, and, in addition, any other rights, powers, and privileges granted by the laws of this State to corporations organized under the general laws of this State, except such as are inconsistent with the express provisions of this subchapter; and to do any such thing anywhere.</p>	<p>Technical corrections</p> <p>Redundant to subdivision (10)</p>
3	11 V.S.A. § 995	<p>§ 995. Articles Each association formed under this subchapter shall prepare and file articles of incorporation setting forth:</p> <p>(1) The name of the association. (2) The purpose for which it is formed. (3) The place where its principal business will be transacted <u>address of its principal office in this State, and the name, email, and address information of an agent for service of process pursuant to section 1655 of this title.</u> (4) The names and <u>business</u> addresses of the directors thereof who are to serve until the election and qualification of their successors. (5) The name and residence <u>business address</u> of the clerk, and of any other <u>principal the association provides.</u> (6) When organized without capital stock, whether the property rights and interest of the members are equal, and, if unequal, the general rules applicable to all</p>	<p>Use consistent terminology for articles of incorporation</p> <p>Harmonize agent for service of process provisions</p> <p>Harmonize initial filing provisions re: principal information</p>

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		<p>members by which the property rights and interest, respectively, of each member shall be determined and fixed, and provision for the admission of new members who shall be entitled to share in the property of the association in accordance with such general rules. This provision or paragraph of the certificate of organization <u>articles of incorporation</u> shall not be altered, amended, or replaced except by the written consent or vote representing three-fourths of the members.</p> <p>(7) When organized with capital stock, the amount of such stock, the number of shares into which it is divided, and the par value thereof.</p> <p>(8) The capital stock may be divided into preferred and one or more classes of common stock. When so divided, the certificate of organization <u>articles of incorporation</u> shall contain a statement of the number of shares of stock to which preference is granted, the number of shares of stock to which no preference is granted, and the nature and definite extent of the preference and privileges granted to each.</p> <p>(9) The articles of incorporation of any association organized under this subchapter may provide that the members or stockholders thereof shall have the right to vote in person or through another method of communication, including through a telecommunications or electronic medium, but a member or stockholder may not vote by proxy. This provision or paragraph of the articles of incorporation shall not be altered and shall not be subject to amendment.</p> <p>(10) In addition to the foregoing, the articles of incorporation of any association incorporated hereunder may contain any provision consistent with law with respect to management, regulation, government, financing, indebtedness, membership, the establishment of voting districts and the election of delegates for representative purposes, the issuance, retirement, and transfer of its stock, if formed with capital stock, or any provisions relative to the way or manner in which it shall operate or with respect to its members, officers, or directors and any other provisions relating to its affairs.</p> <p>(11) The certificate <u>articles of incorporation</u> shall be subscribed by the incorporators and shall be sworn to by one or more of them; and shall be filed with the Secretary of State. A certified copy shall also be filed with the Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets.</p> <p>(12) When so filed, the certificate of organization <u>articles of incorporation</u> or a certified copy thereof shall be received in the courts of this State as prima facie evidence of the facts contained therein and of the due incorporation of such association.</p>	<p>Correct terminology</p>
3	11 V.S.A. § 996	<p>§ 996. Amendment of certificate <u>articles</u>; statement of change</p> <p>(a) The certificate of organization <u>articles of incorporation</u> may be altered or amended except as otherwise provided in this subchapter at any regular meeting or any special meeting called for that purpose. An amendment must first be approved by two-thirds of the directors and adopted by a vote of two-thirds of the members or delegates present and voting at such meeting. Amendments to the certificate of</p>	<p>Use consistent terminology for articles of incorporation</p>

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		<p>organization articles of incorporation, when so adopted, shall be filed in accordance with the provisions of section 995 of this title.</p> <p>(b) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, an association shall amend the name, email, or address information of its agent for service of process by submitting to the Secretary of State for filing a statement of change pursuant to section 1655 of this title.</p>	<p>Harmonize agent for service of process provisions</p>
3	11 V.S.A. § 997	<p>§ 997. Fee For filing a certificate of organization articles of incorporation, an association shall pay \$20.00 to the Secretary of State, and for filing an amendment thereto, \$10.00.</p>	<p>Use consistent terminology for articles of incorporation</p>
3	11 V.S.A. § 1001(10)	<p>§ 1001. Contents of bylaws Each association may provide in its bylaws for any or all of the following matters: *** (10) In the case of a consumer's consumers' or railroad cooperative, the method of distributing among members or stockholders and patrons, both members and nonmembers, the net savings derived from the excess of total income over operating expenses. Provision may be made for the accumulation of reserve funds out of net savings.</p>	<p>Harmonize spelling of consumers' cooperative</p>
3	11 V.S.A. § 1013	<p>§ 1013. Officers The directors shall elect from their number a president and one or more vice presidents. They shall also elect a secretary, who shall be the clerk of the corporation association, and a treasurer, who need not be directors or members of the association. The directors may combine the two latter offices and designate the combined office as that of secretary-treasurer, or unite both functions and titles in one person. The treasurer may be a bank or any depository, and as such, shall not be considered as an officer, but as a function of the board of directors, and in such case, the secretary shall perform the usual accounting duties of the treasurer, except that the funds shall be deposited only as and where authorized by the board of directors.</p>	<p>Use consistent terminology for association</p>
3	11 V.S.A. § 1023	<p>§ 1023. Ownership or control of other corporations business organizations An association may organize, form, operate, own, control, have an interest in, own stock of, or be a member of, any other corporation or corporations, with or without capital stock, and business organization engaged in preserving, drying, processing, canning, packing, storing, handling, shipping, utilizing, manufacturing, marketing, or selling the agricultural products handled by the association or byproducts thereof.</p>	<p>Recognize other business organization types beyond corporations</p>
3	11 V.S.A. § 1024	<p>§ 1024. Warehouse receipts When such corporations are warehousing corporations, they An association engaged in warehousing may issue negotiable or nonnegotiable warehouse receipts of the association against the commodities delivered, and such warehouse receipts</p>	<p>Use consistent terminology for association</p>

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		<p>shall be considered as adequate collateral to the extent of the usual and current value of the commodity represented thereby. In case such warehouse is licensed, or licensed and bonded, under the laws of this or any other state of the United States, its warehouse receipt delivered to the association on commodities of the association or its members, or delivered by the association or by its members, shall not be challenged or discriminated against because of ownership or control, wholly or in part, by the association.</p>	
3	11 V.S.A. § 1061	<p>§ 1061. Procedure Two or more cooperative associations organized under, or which have adopted the provisions of subchapter 4 <u>2</u> of this chapter, or similar laws of other states, whether having or not having capital stock, may merge or consolidate into one cooperative association which may be a new cooperative association or one of the constituent cooperatives by complying with the following requirements: *** (3) If the articles of merger or consolidation are adopted by the affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds of the members attending and voting of each consolidating cooperative voting thereon at the meeting called to consider the same, or by not less than by a two-thirds vote of its delegates if qualified as provided in subdivision (4) of this section, articles of merger or consolidation in the form adopted shall be executed under its seal and acknowledged on behalf of each consolidating cooperative by its president or vice-president. Such articles of merger or consolidation shall recite that they are executed pursuant to this subchapter and shall state: (A) the name of each consolidating cooperative and the address of its principal office (B) the name of the new cooperative and the address of its principal office <u>in this State, or if none, the name, email, and address of an agent for service of process pursuant to section 1655 of this title;</u> (C) a statement that each consolidating cooperative agrees to the merger or consolidation; (D) the names and <u>business</u> addresses of the directors of the new cooperative, <u>and of any other principal the association provides;</u> and (E) the terms and conditions of the merger or consolidation and the mode of carrying the same into effect, including the manner in which the members of the consolidating cooperative may or shall become members of the new cooperative; and may contain provisions, not inconsistent with law or this subchapter, which are deemed necessary or advisable for the conduct of the business of the new cooperative. (4) The president or vice president and the clerk or secretary of each consolidating cooperative executing such articles of merger or consolidation shall make and annex thereto an affidavit stating that the provisions of this section in respect to such articles were duly complied with by such cooperative. (5) ***</p>	<p>Correct cross-reference</p> <p>Harmonize agent for service of process provisions</p> <p>Harmonize initial filing provisions re: principal information</p>

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Partnerships, Unincorporated Nonprofit Associations, and Assumed Business Names – 11 V.S.A. Chapter 15			
4	11 V.S.A. Chapter 15	<u>Chapter 15: Registration of Business Entities Assumed Business Names, Partnerships, and Unincorporated Nonprofit Associations; Administrative Authority; Administrative Provisions</u>	Update title to reflect contents of chapter
4	11 V.S.A. Chapter 15, subchapter 1	<u>Subchapter 1: Assumed Business Names, Partnerships, and Unincorporated Nonprofit Associations</u>	Add subchapter specific to assumed business name, partnership, and unincorporated nonprofit association registration
4	11 V.S.A. § 1621	<p><u>§ 1621. Registration of assumed business name by persons names, partnerships, and unincorporated nonprofit associations</u></p> <p>(a) A person doing business in this State under any name other than his or her own, and every copartnership <u>An individual doing business under an assumed business name, or a partnership or unincorporated nonprofit association of individuals, except corporations and limited liability companies, doing business in this State, resident or nonresident, shall cause to be recorded with submit to the Secretary of State for filing a return setting forth a registration that provides:</u></p> <p><u>(1) the name under which such business is carried on, the name of the business;</u></p> <p><u>(2) the name of the town wherein such place of business is located, the address of its principal office;</u></p> <p><u>(3) a brief description of the kind of business to be transacted under such name, and its business purpose;</u></p> <p><u>(4) the individual names and residences of all persons, general partners, or members so doing business thereunder the name and business address of the individual doing business under the assumed name, as a partner of the partnership, or as a member of the association, and of any other principal the registrant provides; and</u></p> <p><u>(5) for each individual, partner, or member who is not a resident of this State, or for whom the registrant does not provide an address in this State for service of process, the name, email, and address information of an agent for service of process pursuant to section 1655 of this title.</u></p> <p>(b) Such returns <u>A registration shall be subscribed and sworn to by one or more of the persons so doing business, and shall be a person with authority to act on behalf of the registrant and filed with the Secretary of State within not later than 10 days after commencement of business.</u></p> <p><u>(c) The Secretary of State shall decline to register any business name unless the name is distinguishable in the records of the Secretary of State from any other business name of any name registered or reserved under this chapter, or the name of any other entity, whether domestic or foreign, that is reserved, registered, or granted by or with the Secretary of State, or any name that would lead a reasonable person to conclude that the business is a type of entity that it is not.</u></p>	<p>Harmonize initial filings for assumed business names, partnerships, and UNAs</p> <p>Harmonize agent for service of process provisions</p>

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		<p>(d) The Secretary of State shall establish rules and regulations for the administration of this section.</p> <p>(e) Prior to registering its business name under this section, a person intending to operate a postsecondary school, as defined in 16 V.S.A. §§ 176 and 176a, shall apply to the State Board of Education for a certificate of approval pursuant to those sections.</p>	
4	11 V.S.A. § 1621a	<p>§ 1621a. Reserved name</p> <p>(a) The exclusive right to the use of a business name may be reserved by any person, copartnership, or association intending to register its name under this section.</p> <p>(b) The reservation shall be made by filing with the Secretary of State an application to reserve a specified business name, executed by the applicant, its agent, or attorney. If the Secretary of State finds that the name is available for use, he or she shall reserve the same for the exclusive use of the applicant for a period of 120 days.</p> <p>(c) The right to the exclusive use of a specified business name so reserved may be transferred to any other person, copartnership, or association by filing in the office of the Secretary of State a notice of such transfer, executed by the applicant for whom the name was reserved, and specifying the name and address of the transferee.</p>	Harmonize reserved name provisions
4	11 V.S.A. § 1623	<p>§ 1623. Registration by business organizations</p> <p>(a) A business organization doing business in this State under any name other than that of the business organization shall be subject to all the provisions of this chapter; and shall file returns sworn to by some officer or director of the corporation or mutual benefit enterprise, or by some director or manager of the limited liability company, or by some partner of the partnership or limited partnership, setting forth:</p> <p>(1) the name and location of the principal office of the business organization;</p> <p>(2) the name under which the organization will conduct business;</p> <p>(3) the town or towns where the organization conducts business under the name;</p> <p>and</p> <p>(4) a brief description of the kind of business the organization conducts under the name.</p> <p>(b) The Secretary of State shall decline to register any business name unless the name is distinguishable in the records of the Secretary of State from any other business name of any name registered or reserved under this chapter or the name of any other entity, whether domestic or foreign, that is reserved, registered, or granted by or with the Secretary of State, or any name that would lead a reasonable person to conclude that the business is a type of entity that it is not.</p> <p>[Repealed.]</p>	Harmonize assumed business name provisions for business organizations

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4	11 V.S.A. § 1624	<p>§ 1624. Forms The Secretary of State shall formulate forms for the returns and shall, on request, furnish such forms by mail or otherwise to persons, copartnerships, associations, or corporations subject to the provisions of this chapter. [Repealed.]</p>	Harmonize administrative authority for form, procedure, and rule provisions.
4	11 V.S.A. § 1625	<p>§ 1625. Fees (a) A person, copartnership, association, limited liability company, or corporation required by the provisions of this subchapter to file a return shall, at the time of filing as provided, pay a registration fee of \$70.00 to the Secretary of State. (b) A person, copartnership, association, limited liability company, or corporation required by the provisions of this subchapter to file <u>an amendment</u>, a certificate of cessation of business, or change of business status or an application to reserve a business name shall, at the time of filing, pay a fee of \$35.00 to the Secretary of State. (c) Statement of change of designated agent or designated office, or both, <u>for a person registered under this subchapter</u>: \$25.00, not to exceed \$1,000.00 per filer per calendar year. (d) The Secretary shall collect \$25.00 each time process is served on the Secretary <u>on behalf of a person registered under this subchapter</u>. The party to a proceeding causing service of process is entitled to recover this fee as costs if he or she prevails in the proceeding.</p>	Technical corrections
4	11 V.S.A. § 1626	<p>§ 1626. Failure to register; enforcing compliance (a) A person <u>transacting business in this State</u> who is not registered with the Secretary of State as required under this chapter <u>subchapter</u>, and any successor to the person or assignee of a cause of action arising out of the business of the person, may not maintain an action or proceeding or raise a counterclaim, crossclaim, or affirmative defense in this State until the person, successor, or assignee registers with the Secretary. (b) The failure of a person to register as required under this chapter <u>subchapter</u> does not impair the validity of a contract or act of the person or preclude it from defending an action or proceeding in this State. (c) An individual does not waive a limitation on his or her personal liability afforded by other law solely by transacting business in this State without registering with the Secretary of State as required under this chapter <u>subchapter</u>. (d) If a person transacts business in this State without registering with the Secretary of State as required under this chapter <u>subchapter</u>, the Secretary is its agent for service of process with respect to a right of action arising out of the transaction of business in this State. (e) A person that transacts business in this State without registering with the Secretary of State as required under this chapter <u>subchapter</u> shall be liable to the State for:</p>	Technical corrections to cross-references

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		<p>(1) a civil penalty of \$50.00 for each day, not to exceed a total of \$10,000.00 for each year, it transacts business in this State without a registration;</p> <p>(2) an amount equal to the fees due under this chapter <u>subchapter</u> during the period it transacted business in this State without a registration; and</p> <p>(3) other penalties imposed by law.</p> <p>(f) The Attorney General may maintain an action in the Civil Division of the Superior Court to collect the penalties imposed in subsection (e) of this section and to restrain a person from transacting business in this State in violation of this chapter <u>subchapter</u>.</p>	
4	11 V.S.A. § 1627	<p>§ 1627. Service of process Service of such complaint and process thereunder may be made by delivering within this State a true and attested copy thereof to any person so doing business or any servant or agent of such person, copartnership, association, limited liability company, or corporation, or in any manner otherwise provided by law. A name so registered shall not thereafter be used by a person, copartnership, association, limited liability company, or corporation, unless it is lawfully entitled thereto at the date of such registration. <u>[Repealed.]</u></p>	Harmonize service of process provisions
4	11 V.S.A. § 1628	<p>§ 1628. Certificate of cessation of business or change of business status; amendment (a) When a person, copartnership, association, limited liability company, or corporation subject to the provisions of this chapter shall cease to do business in this State, a certificate setting forth such fact and the date whereon it so ceased shall be filed with the Secretary of State within 10 days after the date such business ceases of cessation. Such certificate may be sworn to and filed by a surviving partner, member of such association, officer of such corporation, member or manager of such limited liability company, or person so doing business, or his or her executor or administrator. <u>(a) A registrant that ceases to do business in this State shall submit to the Secretary of State for filing a certificate of cessation of business not later than 10 days after the date of cessation.</u> (b) Whenever any general partner of such partnership, or member of such association withdraws from the business, a remaining general partner or member shall within 30 days file a certificate with the Secretary of State signed and sworn by a remaining general partner or member, setting forth the fact of such withdrawal, together with the date of that withdrawal. Filing of this certificate shall avoid any interruption in the period of registration remaining before the need for renewal, as if no partner or member of the association had withdrawn.</p>	Harmonize and update cessation and amendment provisions for assumed business names, partnerships, and UNAs

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		<p><u>(b) A registrant that adds or removes an individual, partner, or member named in its registration shall submit to the Secretary of State for filing an amendment to reflect the change not later than 30 days after the date of the change.</u></p> <p><u>(c) A registrant may amend its agent information by filing a statement of change pursuant to section 1655 of this title, and may amend any other information in its registration by submitting an amendment to the Secretary of State for filing.</u></p>	<p>Harmonize agent for service of process provisions</p>
4	11 V.S.A. § 1629	<p>§ 1629. Penalties Failure to file such certificate at the time so required by section 1628 of this title shall work a forfeiture of \$10.00 to be recovered by the Secretary of State in a civil action on this statute, in his or her name, against any surviving partner, any member of such association, any officer of such corporation, or any person so doing business, or his executor or administrator, and the same shall be paid into the Treasury of the State. [Repealed.]</p>	<p>Repeal provision; superseded by 11 V.S.A. § 1626</p>
4	11 V.S.A. § 1630-1634	<p>§ 1630. Process agent Each nonresident doing business in this State in his or her individual capacity, or as copartner or member of a copartnership or association required by sections 1621 and 1623 of this title to file the returns therein specified, or under any name other than his or her own, except as otherwise provided, shall appoint in writing a person having an office or place of business and residing in the town wherein the principal office of such nonresident, copartnership, or association is located, upon whom process against such nonresident may be served in an action founded upon a liability incurred in this State. Such appointment shall continue in force until revoked by a like instrument appointing another person therein residing, and having therein an office or place of business. Such instrument shall be recorded with the Secretary of State. In the event a nonresident has not appointed a process agent, and has not filed such appointment, as set forth in this section, the Secretary of State shall be such process agent.</p> <p>§ 1631. Vacaney When an appointee dies or removes from the State, another person residing in such town and having therein an office or place of business, within 10 days from the date of such death or removal, shall be appointed in the manner hereinbefore specified, upon whom service of process may be made as provided in section 1630 of this title. In case of such death or removal, or if a person is not appointed as aforesaid, process against such nonresident person may be served by delivering to the Secretary of State duplicate copies thereof, one of which shall be filed with the Secretary of State and the other shall be forwarded by mail prepaid by the clerk to the last known residence of such person.</p> <p>§ 1632. Exceptions The provisions of sections 1630 and 1631 of this title shall not apply to foreign investment companies, foreign building and loan associations, or foreign creamery companies.</p>	<p>Harmonize agent for service of process provisions</p>

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		<p>§ 1633. Secretary of State as process agent A foreign insurance, express, shipping car, telegraph, or telephone company, or a foreign company under any other name engaged in like business, shall not do business in this State as an unincorporated association or partnership, until it has filed with the Secretary of State a written stipulation containing the association or firm name, and the names and residences of the associates or partners, and appointing the Secretary of State as its process agent. Such stipulation shall be in form and substance like that specified in subdivision 692(3) of this title, and shall have the same legal effect. The provisions of 12 V.S.A. §§ 851-853, shall apply to service of process on such company and to acts done by persons or agents in its behalf.</p> <p>§ 1634. Effect of failure and neglect A person, copartnership, limited liability company, or corporation subject to this chapter shall not institute any proceedings in this State for the enforcement of any right or obligation unless it shall, prior to the issuance of the original return or complaint therein, have filed the returns and paid the registration fee required by this chapter; nor shall a license or certificate be granted to a nonresident individual, copartnership, or unincorporated association to transact a business specified in Titles 5 and 23 or in 6 V.S.A. chapter 29 until such individual, copartnership, or association has complied with the provisions of section 1630 of this title.</p> <p>[Repealed.]</p>	
4	11 V.S.A. § 1635	<p>§ 1635. Reregistration (a) One or more persons doing business under a registered business name A registrant shall reregister the name every five years by filing a reregistration return with the Secretary of State with a fee of \$65.00 within not sooner than 60 days following the date five years after prior to the expiration date of the original registration or of the last reregistration. The Secretary of State shall prepare and supply the necessary forms. (b) When reregistration is not accomplished as provided in subsection (a) of this section, a business name may be registered by the first applicant making application to the Secretary of State for an original registration as provided by this chapter subchapter.</p>	Amend process to allow reregistration prior to expiration
4	11 V.S.A. Chapter 15, subchapter 2	Subchapter 2: Administrative Authority	Add new subchapter to address administrative authority
4	11 V.S.A. § 1636	<p>§ 1636. Termination of business name; hearing (a) If the Secretary of State declines to register a business name in accordance with the provisions of subsection 1621(e) of this title because it is not distinguishable in the records of the Secretary from another business name, the applicant may request that the Secretary determine whether the person to whom the business name is registered is doing business or taking steps to do business in this State.</p>	Technical corrections to apply to all name applications (not just to chapter 15 registrations)

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
		<p>(b) If, after notice and an opportunity for hearing, the Secretary or designee finds that the person is not doing business or intending to do business in this State as demonstrated by a substantive act or acts consistent with that intent, the Secretary may terminate the registration and register the business name to the applicant. If the business name is not taken by the person who requested a hearing under this section, the business name shall be available for selection by another registrant.</p> <p>(c) A person aggrieved by a final decision of the Secretary under this section may appeal to the Superior Court of Washington County, which shall consider the matter de novo.</p>	
4	11 V.S.A. § 1637	<p>§ 1637. Authority to terminate and amend registration</p> <p>(a) The Secretary of State shall have the authority to:</p> <p>(1) terminate the registration of a person who, pursuant to <u>an administrative order</u>, a final court order, or an assurance of discontinuance, is not authorized to conduct business in this State; and</p> <p>(2) amend his or her <u>the person's</u> records to reflect the termination of a registration pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection.</p> <p>(b)(1) If the Secretary of State terminates the registration of a person pursuant to this section, the person appoints the Secretary as his or her <u>the person's</u> agent for service of process in any proceeding based on a cause of action that arose during the time the person was authorized to transact, or was transacting without authorization, business in this State.</p> <p>(2) Upon receipt of process, the Secretary of State shall deliver by registered mail a copy of the process to the secretary of the terminated person at its principal office shown in its most recent annual report or in any subsequent communication received from the person stating the current mailing address of its principal office, or, if none is on file, in its application for registration.</p> <p>***</p>	Technical corrections
4	11 V.S.A. § 1638	<p>§ 1638. Authority to reject, amend, or terminate</p> <p>(a) The Secretary of State shall have the authority to:</p> <p>(1) <u>reject a record submitted for filing that the Secretary reasonably determines contains false, fraudulent, or clearly erroneous information; and</u></p> <p>(2) <u>amend a record or terminate the registration of a person who the Secretary determines, after notice and opportunity for hearing pursuant to 3 V.S.A. chapter 25, has submitted false or fraudulent information in a record, or has attempted or submitted a record for filing in bad faith, without lawful authority, or to commit fraud or cause injury.</u></p> <p>(b) <u>If the Secretary terminates the registration of a person pursuant to this section, or the Secretary's rejection or amendment of a record results in the person's failure to designate or maintain an agent for service of process, then the Secretary is an agent of the person for service of process under section 1656 of this title.</u></p>	New administrative authority for cases of false, fraudulent, or clearly erroneous filings

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
		<u>(c) A person aggrieved by a final decision of the Secretary under this section may appeal to the Civil Division of the Washington Superior Court, which shall consider the matter de novo.</u>	
4	11 V.S.A. § 1639	§ 1639. Forms; Procedures; Rules <u>The Secretary of State may adopt forms, procedures, and rules to implement the processes and provisions governing business registration in this State.</u>	Harmonize administrative authority to adopt forms, procedures, and rules (currently available under certain business organization statutes but not others)
4	11 V.S.A. chapter 15, subchapter 3	Subchapter 3: Administrative Provisions for Business Organizations	Add new subchapter to harmonize common administrative provisions for all business organizations
4	11 V.S.A. § 1652	§ 1652. Reserved Name <u>(a) A person may reserve the exclusive use of a business name by delivering an application to the Secretary of State for filing. The application shall state the name and address of the applicant and the name to be reserved. If the Secretary finds that the entity name is available, the Secretary shall reserve the name for the applicant's exclusive use for 120 days.</u> <u>(b) The owner of a reserved name may transfer the reservation to another person by submitting to the Secretary of State for filing a notice of the transfer, which states the name and address of the transferee.</u>	Harmonize reserved name provisions
4	11 V.S.A. § 1653	§ 1653. Assumed Business Name of Business Organization <u>A business organization that is authorized to do business in this State may conduct business under an assumed name by submitting to the Secretary of State for filing a registration that identifies the authorized business and the assumed name.</u>	Relocate and harmonize assumed business name provisions for business organizations (cf. sole proprietors)
4	11 V.S.A. § 1654	§ 1654. [Reserved]	Reserved for potential updates to provisions governing business name
4	11 V.S.A. § 1655	§ 1655. Designation of Agent for Service of Process; Change; Resignation <u>(a) Duty to designate agent for service of process. A person doing business in this State that is required to designate and maintain an agent for service of process shall provide the name, email, and address information of an individual resident of this State or of a business organization that has a place of business in, and is authorized to conduct business in, this State.</u> <u>(b) Attestation. A person who designates an agent for service of process attests that the agent consents to the appointment.</u> <u>(c) Duty to maintain current agent information; statement of change. Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section, a person registered with the Secretary of State may change its agent for service of process, or the agent's email or address information, solely by submitting to the Secretary of State for filing a statement of change that provides its current agent information and specifies any changes to the agent information.</u> <u>(d) Bulk statement of change by agent.</u>	Harmonize agent for service of process provisions

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
		<p><u>(1) If an agent for service of process changes its name, email, or address information in the records of the Secretary of State, the agent may submit to the Secretary for filing a bulk statement of change that:</u> <u>(A) identifies the businesses for which the agent serves as the agent for service of process and whose records the Secretary shall update to reflect the change to the agent’s information; and</u> <u>(B) attests that the agent has or will promptly provide notice to each business whose record is updated pursuant to the bulk statement of change.</u> <u>(2) For a bulk statement of change, the Secretary of State shall collect from the agent a separate filing fee for each business whose record is amended.</u> <u>(e) Agent resignation; termination.</u> <u>(1) An agent for service of process may resign by submitting to the Secretary of State for filing a statement of resignation and delivering a copy of the statement to the affected business.</u> <u>(2) An agency for service of process terminates on the earlier of:</u> <u>(A) 30 days after the Secretary files a statement of resignation; or</u> <u>(B) the date on which a statement of change designating a new agent takes effect.</u> <u>(3) The Secretary shall waive the filing fee for a statement of resignation if the agent on record attests that it did not consent to serve as agent for service of process.</u></p>	
4	11 V.S.A. § 1656	<p><u>§ 1656. Secretary of State as Agent for Service of Process</u> <u>(a) An agent for service of process appointed by a person registered with the Secretary of State is an agent for service of any process, notice, or demand required or permitted by law to be served upon the person.</u> <u>(b) The Secretary of State is an agent for service of any process, notice, or demand for:</u> <u>(1) a person conducting business in this State without registering with the Secretary as required by law;</u> <u>(2) a person registered with the Secretary who fails to appoint or maintain an agent for service of process in this State as required by law, or</u> <u>(3) a person whose appointed agent for service of process cannot with reasonable diligence be found at the agent’s address.</u> <u>(c)(1) Service of any process, notice, or demand on the Secretary of State may be made by delivering to and leaving with the Secretary of State duplicate copies of the process, notice, or demand.</u> <u>(2) If the process, notice, or demand is served on the Secretary of State, the Secretary of State shall forward one of the copies by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, to the person at its principal office or last known address as reflected in the records of the Secretary.</u> <u>(d) Service is effective on the earliest of:</u> <u>(1) the date the person receives the process, notice, or demand;</u> <u>(2) the date shown on the return receipt, if signed on behalf of the person; or</u></p>	Harmonize service of process provisions

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
		<p><u>(3) five days after the process, notice, or demand is deposited by the Secretary of State for delivery by the U.S. Postal Service, if postage is prepaid to the address of the principal office or last known address reflected in the records of the Secretary of State.</u></p> <p><u>(e) The Secretary of State shall keep a record of all processes, notices, and demands served pursuant to this section and record the time of and the action taken regarding the service.</u></p> <p><u>(f) This section shall not affect the right to serve process, notice, or demand upon a person in any manner otherwise provided by law.</u></p>	
Partnerships and Limited Liability Partnerships – 11 V.S.A. Chapter 22			
5	11 V.S.A. § 3291	<p>§ 3291. Statement of qualification</p> <p>(a)(1) Any lawful partnership may become a limited liability partnership pursuant to this section.</p> <p>(2) A limited liability partnership or a foreign limited liability partnership engaging in a business subject to any other provisions of law of this State governing or regulating business may be formed or authorized to transact business under this chapter only if permitted by, and subject to all limitations of, the other statute. The following shall not be formed or authorized to transact business under this chapter:</p> <p>(A) credit unions regulated under Title 8;</p> <p>(B) insurance companies regulated under Title 8;</p> <p>(C) railroad companies regulated under Title 19.</p> <p>(b) The terms and conditions on which a partnership becomes a limited liability partnership must be approved by the vote necessary to amend the partnership agreement except, in the case of a partnership agreement that expressly considers obligations to contribute to the partnership, the vote necessary to amend those provisions.</p> <p>(c) After the approval required by subsection (b) of this section, a partnership may only become a limited liability partnership by filing a statement of qualification. The statement must contain:</p> <p>(1) the name of the partnership;</p> <p>(2) the location of the principal place of business in this State;</p> <p>(3) if the partnership does not have a principal place of business in this State, the name, email, and street address <u>information</u> of the partnership’s agent for service of process pursuant to section 1655 of this title;</p> <p>(4) a statement that the partnership elects to be a limited liability partnership; and</p> <p>(5) a deferred effective date, if any.</p> <p>(d) The agent of a limited liability partnership for service of process must be an individual who is a resident of this State or other person authorized to do business in this State.</p>	<p>Harmonize agent for service of process provisions</p>

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
		<p>(e) The status of a partnership as a limited liability partnership is effective on the later of the filing of the statement or a date specified in the statement. The status remains effective, regardless of changes in the partnership, until it is canceled pursuant to subsection 3205(d) of this title or revoked pursuant to section 3293 of this title.</p> <p>(f) The status of a partnership as a limited liability partnership and the liability of its partners is not affected by errors or later changes in the information required to be contained in the statement of qualification under subsection (c) of this section.</p> <p>(g) The filing of a statement of qualification establishes that a partnership has satisfied all conditions precedent to the qualification of the partnership as a limited liability partnership.</p> <p>(h) An amendment or cancellation of a statement of qualification is effective when it is filed or on a deferred effective date specified in the amendment or cancellation.</p>	
5	11 V.S.A. § 3293	<p>§ 3293. Annual report</p> <p>(a) A limited liability partnership, and a foreign limited liability partnership authorized to transact business in this State, shall file an annual report in the Office of the Secretary of State which contains:</p> <p>(1) the name of the limited liability partnership and the state or other jurisdiction under whose laws the foreign limited liability partnership is formed;</p> <p>(2) the street address of the partnership’s principal office and, if different, the street address of an office in this State, if any; and</p> <p>(3) if the partnership does not have an office in this State, the name, <u>email</u>, and street address of the partnership’s designated agent for service of process.</p> <p>(b) An annual report must be filed between January 1 and April 1 of each year following the calendar year in which a partnership files a statement of qualification or a foreign partnership becomes authorized to transact business in this State.</p> <p>(c) The Secretary of State may revoke the statement of qualification of a partnership that fails to file an annual report when due or pay the required filing fee. To do so, the Secretary of State shall provide the partnership at least 60 days’ written notice of intent to revoke the statement. The notice must be mailed to the partnership at its designated office set forth in the last filed statement of qualification or annual report. The notice must specify the annual report that has not been filed, the fee that has not been paid, and the effective date of the revocation. The revocation is not effective if the annual report is filed and the fee is paid before the effective date of the revocation.</p> <p>(d) A revocation under subsection (c) of this section only affects a partnership’s status as a limited liability partnership and is not an event of dissolution of the partnership.</p> <p>(e) A partnership whose statement of qualification has been revoked may apply to the Secretary of State for reinstatement within two years after the effective date of the revocation. The application must state:</p> <p>(1) the name of the partnership and the effective date of the revocation; and</p> <p>(2) that the ground for revocation either did not exist or has been corrected.</p>	<p>Harmonize annual report provisions re: principal information</p>

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
		<p>(f) A reinstatement under subsection (e) of this section relates back to and takes effect as of the effective date of the revocation, and the partnership’s status as a limited liability partnership continues as if the revocation had never occurred.</p> <p><u>(g) The Secretary of State shall amend its records to reflect a change, if specified in the report, to the business’s purpose, email, address, or principal information.</u></p>	
5	11 V.S.A. § 3302	<p>§ 3302. Statement of foreign qualification</p> <p>(a) Before transacting business in this State, a foreign limited liability partnership must file a statement of foreign qualification. The statement must contain:</p> <p>(1) The name of the foreign limited liability partnership which satisfies the requirements of section 3292 of this title and the state or other jurisdiction under whose law it is formed and ends with “Registered Limited Liability Partnership,” “Limited Liability Partnership,” “R.L.L.P.,” “L.L.P.,” “RLLP,” or “LLP.” In the event that the name of the foreign limited liability partnership does not satisfy the requirements of section 3292 of this title, the foreign limited liability partnership shall use an available trade name to transact business in this State if it delivers to the Secretary of State for filing a copy of the statement executed by at least two partners adopting the trade name.</p> <p>(2) The street address of the partnership’s principal office and, if different, the street address of an office of the partnership in this State, if any.</p> <p>(3) If there is no office of the partnership in this State, the name, <u>email</u>, and street address <u>information</u> of the partnership’s agent for service of process <u>pursuant to section 1655 of this title</u>.</p> <p>(4) A deferred effective date, if any.</p> <p>(b) The agent of a foreign limited liability partnership for service of process must be an individual who is a resident of this State or other person authorized to do business in this State.</p> <p>(c) The status of a partnership as a foreign limited liability partnership is effective on the later of the filing of the statement of foreign qualification or a date specified in the statement. The status remains effective, regardless of changes in the partnership, until it is canceled pursuant to subsection 3205(d) or revoked pursuant to section 3293 of this title.</p> <p>(d) An amendment or cancellation of a statement of foreign qualification is effective when it is filed or on a deferred effective date specified in the amendment or cancellation.</p>	<p>Harmonize agent for service of process provisions</p>
5	11 V.S.A. § 3303	<p>§ 3303. Effect of failure to qualify</p> <p>(a)(1) A foreign limited liability partnership transacting business in this State may not maintain an action or proceeding or raise a counterclaim, crossclaim, or affirmative defense in this State unless it has in effect a statement of foreign qualification.</p> <p>(2) The successor to a foreign limited liability partnership that transacted business in this State without a certificate of authority <u>statement of foreign qualification in effect</u> and the assignee of a cause of action arising out of that business may not</p>	<p>Correct terminology</p>

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
		<p>maintain a proceeding or raise a counterclaim, crossclaim, or affirmative defense based on that cause of action in any court in this State until the foreign limited liability partnership or its successor or assignee obtains <u>files a certificate of authority statement of foreign qualification.</u></p> <p>(b) The failure of a foreign limited liability partnership to have in effect a statement of foreign qualification does not impair the validity of a contract or act of the foreign limited liability partnership or preclude it from defending an action or proceeding in this State.</p> <p>(c) A limitation on personal liability of a partner is not waived solely by transacting business in this State without a statement of foreign qualification.</p> <p>(d) If a foreign limited liability partnership transacts business in this State without a statement of foreign qualification, the Secretary of State is its agent for service of process with respect to a right of action arising out of the transaction of business in this State.</p> <p>(e) A foreign limited liability partnership that transacts business in this State without a statement of foreign qualification shall be liable to the State for:</p> <p>(1) a civil penalty of \$50.00 for each day, not to exceed a total of \$10,000.00 for each year, it transacts business in this State without a statement of foreign qualification;</p> <p>(2) an amount equal to the fees due under this chapter during the period it transacted business in this State without a statement of foreign qualification; and</p> <p>(3) other penalties imposed by law.</p>	
Limited Partnerships – 11 V.S.A. Chapter 23			
6	11 V.S.A. 3403	<p>§ 3403. Reservation of name</p> <p>(a) The exclusive right to the use of a name may be reserved by:</p> <p>(1) any person intending to organize a limited partnership under this chapter and to adopt that name;</p> <p>(2) any domestic limited partnership or any foreign limited partnership registered in this State which, in either case, intends to adopt that name;</p> <p>(3) any foreign limited partnership intending to register in this State and adopt that name; and</p> <p>(4) any person intending to organize a foreign limited partnership and intending to have it registered in this State and to adopt that name.</p> <p>(b) The reservation shall be made by filing with the Secretary of State an application, executed by the applicant, to reserve a specified name. If the Secretary of State finds that the name is available for use by a domestic or foreign limited partnership, he or she shall reserve the name for the exclusive use of the applicant for a period of 120 days. The owner of a name reserved under this section may renew the reservation for two successive periods of 120 days each. The right to the exclusive use of a reserved name may be transferred to any other person by filing</p>	Harmonize reserved name provisions

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
		<p>in the Office of the Secretary of State a notice of the transfer, executed by the applicant for whom the name was reserved and specifying the name and address of the transferee.</p> <p><u>A person may reserve the exclusive use of a business name by delivering an application to the Secretary of State for filing pursuant to section 1652 of this title.</u></p>	
6	11 V.S.A. § 3404	<p>§ 3404. Specified office and agent</p> <p>(a) Each limited partnership shall continuously maintain in this State:</p> <p>(1) an office, which may but need not be a place of its business in this State, at which shall be kept the records required by section 3405 of this title to be maintained; and</p> <p>(2) an agent for service of process on the limited partnership, which agent must be an individual resident of this State, a domestic corporation, partnership, limited liability company, or a foreign corporation, partnership, or limited liability company authorized to do business in this State pursuant to section 1655 of this title.</p>	<p>Harmonize agent for service of process provisions</p>
6	11 V.S.A. § 3411	<p>§ 3411. Certificate of limited partnership</p> <p>(a) In order to form a limited partnership, a certificate of limited partnership must be executed and filed in the Office of the Secretary of State. The certificate shall set forth:</p> <p>(1) the name of the limited partnership;</p> <p>(2) the address of the office and the name, <u>email</u>, and address <u>information</u> of the agent for service of process required to be maintained by section 3404 of this title;</p> <p>(3) the name and the business address of each general partner, <u>and of any other principal the limited partnership provides;</u></p> <p>(4) the name and place of residence <u>the business address</u> of each limited partner and the amount of cash and a description of and the agreed value of other property contributed by each limited partner;</p> <p>(5) the latest date upon which the limited partnership is to dissolve; and</p> <p>(6) any other matters the general partners determine to include therein.</p> <p>(b) A limited partnership is formed at the time of the filing of the certificate of limited partnership in the Office of the Secretary of State or at any later time specified in the certificate of limited partnership if, in either case, there has been substantial compliance with the requirements of this section.</p>	<p>Harmonize initial filing provisions re: principal information and address information</p>
6	11 V.S.A. § 3482	<p>§ 3482. Registration</p> <p>Before transacting business in this State, a foreign limited partnership shall register with the Secretary of State. In order to register, a foreign limited partnership shall submit to the Secretary of State, in duplicate, an application for registration as a foreign limited partnership, signed and sworn to by a general partner and setting forth:</p> <p>(1) the name of the foreign limited partnership and, if different, the name under which it proposes to register and transact business in this State;</p> <p>(2) the state and date of its formation;</p>	

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
		<p>(3) the name, <u>email</u>, and address <u>information</u> of any agent for service of process on the foreign limited partnership whom the foreign limited partnership elects to appoint; the agent must be an individual resident of this State, a domestic corporation, or a foreign corporation having a place of business in, and authorized to do business in, this State pursuant to section 1655 of this title;</p> <p>(4) a statement that the Secretary of State is appointed the agent of the foreign limited partnership for service of process if no agent has been appointed under subdivision (3) of this section or, if appointed, the agent’s authority has been revoked or if the agent cannot be found or served with the exercise of reasonable diligence;</p> <p>(5) the address of the office required to be maintained in the state of its organization by the laws of that state or, if not so required, of the principal office of the foreign limited partnership;</p> <p>(6) the name and business address of each general partner, <u>and of any other principal the foreign limited partnership provides</u>; and</p> <p>(7) the address of the office at which is kept a list of the names and addresses of the limited partners and their capital contributions, together with an undertaking by the foreign limited partnership to keep those records until the foreign limited partnership’s registration in this State is canceled or withdrawn.</p>	<p>Harmonize agent for service of process provisions</p> <p>Harmonize initial filing provisions for principals</p>
6	11 V.S.A. § 3487	<p>§ 3487. Transaction of business without registration</p> <p>(a)(1) A foreign limited partnership transacting business in this State may not maintain an action or proceeding or raise a counterclaim, crossclaim, or affirmative defense in this State until it has registered in this State.</p> <p>(2) The successor to a foreign limited partnership that transacted business in this State without a certificate of authority <u>registration</u> and the assignee of a cause of action arising out of that business may not maintain a proceeding or raise a counterclaim, crossclaim, or affirmative defense based on that cause of action in any court in this State until the foreign limited partnership or its successor or assignee obtains a certificate of authority <u>has registered</u>.</p> <p>(b) The failure of a foreign limited partnership to register in this State does not impair the validity of any contract or act of the foreign limited partnership or prevent the foreign limited partnership from defending any action, suit, or proceeding in any court of this State.</p> <p>(c) A limited partner of a foreign limited partnership is not liable as a general partner of the foreign limited partnership solely by reason of having transacted business in this State without a <u>registration</u>.</p> <p>(d) A foreign limited partnership, by transacting business in this State without a <u>registration</u>, appoints the Secretary of State as its agent for service of process with respect to claims for relief and causes of action arising out of the transaction of business in this State.</p> <p>(e) A foreign limited partnership that transacts business in this State without a registration shall be liable to the State for:</p>	<p>Correct terminology</p>

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
		<p>(1) a civil penalty of \$50.00 for each day, not to exceed a total of \$10,000.00 for each year, it transacts business in this State without a registration;</p> <p>(2) an amount equal to the fees due under this chapter during the period it transacted business in this State without a registration; and</p> <p>(3) other penalties imposed by law.</p>	
Limited Liability Companies – 11 V.S.A. Chapter 25			
7	11 V.S.A. § 4006	<p>§ 4006. Reserved name</p> <p>(a)(1) A person may reserve the exclusive use of the name of a limited liability company, including a fictitious or assumed name for a foreign limited liability company whose name is not available, by delivering an application to the Secretary of State for filing.</p> <p>(2) The application shall state the name and address of the applicant and the name proposed to be reserved.</p> <p>(3) If the Secretary of State finds that the name applied for is available, the Secretary shall reserve that name for the applicant's exclusive use for a 120-day period.</p> <p>(b) The owner of a reserved limited liability company name may renew the reservation for successive periods of 120 days each by delivering a renewal application to the Secretary of State during the 45-day period preceding the date of expiration of the reservation.</p> <p>(c) The owner of a name reserved for a limited liability company may assign the reservation to another person by delivering to the Secretary of State for filing a signed notice of the assignment that states the name and address of the assignee.</p> <p>(d) The owner of a reserved limited liability company name may terminate the name reservation by delivering to the Secretary of State for filing a signed notice of withdrawal of name reservation.</p> <p><u>A person may reserve the exclusive use of a business name by delivering an application to the Secretary of State for filing pursuant to section 1652 of this title.</u></p>	Harmonize reserved name provisions
7	11 V.S.A. § 4007	<p>§ 4007. Designated office and agent</p> <p>(a) A limited liability company and a foreign limited liability company authorized to do business in this State shall designate and continuously maintain:</p> <p>(1) a designated office for notification purposes, which may but need not be a place of its business, and may but need not be located in this State; and</p> <p>(2) an agent and street address of the agent for service of process on the limited liability company in this State pursuant to section 1655 of this title.</p> <p>(b) An agent for service of process shall be an individual resident of this State, a domestic corporation, another limited liability company, or a foreign corporation or foreign limited liability company authorized to do business in this State.</p>	Harmonize agent for service of process provisions

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
7	11 V.S.A. § 4008	<p>§ 4008. Change of designated office or agent for service of process (a) A limited liability company or foreign limited liability company may change its designated office or agent for service of process by delivering to the Secretary of State for filing a statement of change that sets forth: its current designated office information and any change to the information. (1) the name of the company; (2) the street address, and the mailing address if different from the street address, of its current designated office; (3) if the current designated office is to be changed, the street address, and the mailing address if different from the street address, of the new designated office; (4) the name and address of its current agent for service of process; and (5) if the current agent for service of process is to be changed, the name of the new agent for service of process and the new agent’s written consent, either on the statement or attached to it, to the appointment. (b) If an agent for service of process changes the street address of the agent’s business office, the agent may change the street address of the designated office of any limited liability company or foreign limited liability company for which the agent is the agent for service of process by notifying the company in writing of the change and signing, either manually or in facsimile, and filing with the Secretary of State a statement that complies with the requirements of subsection (a) of this section and recites that the company has been notified of the change. (b) <u>A limited liability company or foreign limited liability company shall change its agent for service of process, or the agent’s email or address information, by delivering to the Secretary for filing a statement of change pursuant to section 1655 of this title.</u></p>	<p>Harmonize agent for service of process statement of change provisions</p>
7	11 V.S.A. § 4009	<p>§ 4009. Resignation of agent for service of process (a) To resign as an agent for service of process of a limited liability company or foreign limited liability company, the agent shall deliver to the Secretary of State for filing a statement of resignation containing the company name and stating that the agent is resigning pursuant to section 1655 of this title. (b) The Secretary of State shall file a statement of resignation delivered under subsection (a) of this section and mail or otherwise deliver a copy to the designated office of the limited liability company. (c) An agency for service of process terminates on the earlier of: (1) the 41st day after the Secretary of State files the statement of resignation; or (2) when a record designating a new agent for service of process is delivered to the Secretary of State for filing on behalf of the limited liability company and becomes effective.</p>	<p>Harmonize agent for service of process provisions</p> <p>Technical correction; agent for SOP resignation – effective period (41 days is error; should be 31)</p>
7	11 V.S.A. § 4010	<p>§ 4010. Service of process (a) An agent for service of process appointed by a limited liability company or a foreign limited liability company is an agent of the company for service of any</p>	<p>Harmonize service of process provisions</p>

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
		<p>process, notice, or demand required or permitted by law to be served upon the company.</p> <p>(b) If a limited liability company or foreign limited liability company fails to appoint or maintain an agent for service of process in this State or the agent for service of process cannot with reasonable diligence be found at the agent’s address, the Secretary of State is an agent of the company upon whom process, notice, or demand may be served.</p> <p>(c) Service of any process, notice, or demand on the Secretary of State may be made by delivering to and leaving with the Secretary of State duplicate copies of the process, notice, or demand. If the process, notice, or demand is served on the Secretary of State, the Secretary of State shall forward one of the copies by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, to the company at its registered office. Service on the Secretary of State shall be returnable in not less than 30 days.</p> <p>(d) The Secretary of State shall keep a record of all processes, notices, and demands served pursuant to this section and record the time of and the action taken regarding the service.</p> <p>(e) This section shall not affect the right to serve process, notice, or demand upon a limited liability company or foreign limited liability company in any manner otherwise provided by law.</p> <p><u>A limited liability company or foreign limited liability company is subject to the service of process provisions in section 1656 of this title.</u></p>	
7	11 V.S.A. § 4023	<p>§ 4023. Articles of organization</p> <p>(a) Articles of organization of a limited liability company shall set forth:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) the name of the company; (2) the address of the initial designated office; (3) the name and street address of the initial agent for service of process; (4) the name and address of each organizer; (5) if the company has no members at the time of filing, a statement to that effect; and (6) whether the company is an L3C. <p>(b) Articles of organization of a limited liability company may set forth:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) provisions permitted to be set forth in an operating agreement; and (2) <u>name, email, and address information for one or more owners, officers, or other principals of the company; and</u> (3) <u>other matters not inconsistent with law.</u> <p>(c) Articles of organization of a limited liability company may not vary the nonwaivable provisions of subsection 4003(b) of this title. As to all other matters, if any provision of an operating agreement is inconsistent with the articles of organization:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) the operating agreement controls as to managers, members, and members’ transferees; and 	<p>Harmonize initial filing provisions re: principal and contact information</p>

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
		(2) the articles of organization control as to persons other than managers, members, and their transferees who relied on the articles to their detriment.	
7	11 V.S.A. § 4033	<p>§ 4033. Annual report for Secretary of State</p> <p>(a) Each domestic limited liability company and each foreign limited liability company authorized to transact business in this State shall file an annual report with the Secretary of State. The annual report shall set forth the following information:</p> <p>(1) the name of the company and the state or country under whose law it is organized; and</p> <p>(2) the address of its designated office; and</p> <p><u>(3) the name, email, and address of its designated agent for service of process at that office in this State.</u></p> <p>(b) Information in the annual report shall be current as of the date the annual report is signed on behalf of the company.</p> <p>(c) The annual report shall be delivered to the Secretary of State within three months after the expiration of the company’s fiscal year.</p> <p><u>(d) The Secretary of State shall amend its records to reflect a change, if specified in the report, to the business’s purpose, email, address, or principal information.</u></p>	<p>Technical correction to annual report information (designated office is not required to be in this State; an agent for service of process is required to have an address in this State)</p> <p>Harmonize AR/BR provisions re: principal and contact information</p>
7	11 V.S.A. § 4112	<p>§ 4112. Application for certificate of authority</p> <p>(a) A foreign limited liability company may apply for a certificate of authority to transact business in this State by delivering an application to the Secretary of State for filing. The application shall set forth:</p> <p>(1) the name of the foreign company and, if its name is unavailable for use in this State, an alternate name that satisfies the requirements of section 4116 of this title;</p> <p>(2) the name of the state or country under whose law it is organized;</p> <p>(3) the address of its initial designated office;</p> <p><u>(4) the name, email, and address information and street address, and the mailing address if different from the street address, of its designated agent for service of process in this State pursuant to section 1655 of this title.</u></p> <p>(b) <u>An application may set forth:</u></p> <p><u>(1) provisions permitted to be included in an operating agreement; and</u></p> <p><u>(2) name, email, and address information for one or more owners, officers, or other principals of the company; and</u></p> <p><u>(3) other matters not inconsistent with law.</u></p> <p>(c) A foreign limited liability company shall deliver with the completed application a certificate of existence or a document of similar import, authenticated by the Secretary of State or other official having custody of company records in the state or country under whose law it is organized, dated no earlier than 90 days prior to filing of the application.</p>	<p>Harmonize agent for service of process provisions</p> <p>Harmonize initial filing provisions re: principal and contact information; authorize permissible information in initial filing</p>

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
Business Corporations – Title 11A			
8	11A V.S.A. § 1.20(j)	<p>§ 1.20. Filing requirements ***</p> <p>(j)(1) Any of the terms of a plan or filed documents may be made dependent on facts ascertainable outside the plan or filed documents as follows: (A) The manner in which the facts operate on the terms of the plan or filed document must be clearly and expressly set forth in the plan or filed document. (B) The facts may include without limitation actions or events within the control of, or determinations made by, a part party to the plan or filing the filed document or a representative of a party to the plan or filing the filed document. (2) As used in this section: (A) “Filed document” means a document filed with the secretary of state Secretary of State under any provision of this title, except chapter 15 or section 16.22 of this title. (B) “Plan” means a plan of merger or share exchange.</p>	Technical corrections
8	11A. V.S.A. § 1.40	<p>§ 1.40. Definitions As used in this title: ***</p> <p>(8) “Entity” includes corporation and foreign corporation; not-for-profit nonprofit corporation; profit and not-for-profit unincorporated association; business trust, estate, partnership, trust, and two or more persons having a joint or common economic interest; and state, United States, and foreign government. ***</p>	Technical corrections
9	11A V.S.A. § 2.02	<p>§ 2.02. Articles of incorporation (a) The articles of incorporation shall set forth: (1) a corporate name for the corporation that satisfies the requirements of section 4.01 of this title; (2) the classes of shares, if any, and the number of shares in each class that the corporation is authorized to issue; (3) the number of shares the corporation is authorized to issue; (4) the street address of the corporation’s initial registered office and the name <u>and email</u> of its initial registered agent <u>for service of process</u> at that office <u>pursuant to 11 V.S.A. § 1655</u>; (5) the name and address of each incorporator; (6) one or more classes of shares that together have unlimited voting rights; and (7) one or more classes of shares (which may be the same class or classes as those with voting rights) that together are entitled to receive the net assets of the corporation upon dissolution. (b) The articles of incorporation may set forth:</p>	<p>Harmonize agent for service of process provisions</p> <p>Harmonize initial filing provisions re: principal information</p>

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
		<p>(1) the names and addresses of the individuals who are to serve as the initial board of directors, and of any other principals the corporation provides;</p> <p>(2) provisions not inconsistent with law regarding: ***</p>	
10	11A V.S.A. § 4.01	<p>§ 4.01. Corporate head name</p> <p>(a) A corporate name:</p> <p>(1) shall contain the word “corporation,” “incorporated,” “company,” or “limited,” or the abbreviation “corp.,” “inc.,” “co.,” or “ltd.,” or words or abbreviations of like import in another language;</p> <p>(2) may not contain language stating or implying that the corporation is organized for a purpose other than that permitted by section 3.01 of this title and its articles of incorporation;</p> <p>(3) shall not have the word “cooperative” or any abbreviation thereof as part of its name unless the corporation is a worker cooperative corporation organized under 11 V.S.A. chapter 8, <u>a housing cooperative corporation organized under 11 V.S.A. chapter 14,</u> or the articles of incorporation contain all of the provisions required of a corporation organized as a cooperative association <u>general cooperative corporation in 11 V.S.A. § 981;</u> and</p> <p>(4) shall not include any word not otherwise authorized by law.</p> <p>(b) Except as authorized by subsections (c) and (d) of this section, a corporate name shall be distinguishable in the records of the Secretary of State from any name granted, registered, or reserved under this chapter, or the name of any other entity, whether domestic or foreign, that is reserved, registered, or granted by or with the Secretary of State.</p> <p>(c) A corporation may apply to the Secretary of State for authorization to use a name that is not distinguishable in the records from one or more of the names described in subsection (b) of this section. The Secretary of State shall authorize use of the name applied for if:</p> <p>(1) the other corporation or business consents to the use in writing and submits an undertaking in form satisfactory to the Secretary of State to change its name to a name that is distinguishable in the records from the name of the applying corporation; or</p> <p>(2) the applicant delivers to the Secretary of State a certified copy of the final judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction establishing the applicant’s right to use the name applied for in this State.</p> <p>(d) A corporation may use the name, including the fictitious name, of another domestic or foreign corporation that is used in this State if the other corporation is incorporated or authorized to transact business in this State and the proposed user corporation:</p> <p>(1) has merged with the other corporation;</p> <p>(2) has been formed by reorganization of the other corporation; or</p> <p>(3) has acquired all or substantially all of the assets, including the corporate name, of the other corporation.</p>	<p>Correct section title</p> <p>Correct cross-references to cooperative corporation sub-types</p>

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
10	11A V.S.A. § 4.02	<p>§ 4.02. Reserved name (a) A person may reserve the exclusive use of a corporate name, including a fictitious name for a foreign corporation whose corporate name is not available, by delivering an application to the Secretary of State for filing. The application must set forth the name and address of the applicant and the name proposed to be reserved. If the Secretary of State finds that the corporate name applied for is available, he or she shall reserve the name for the applicant's exclusive use for a 120-day period. Such 120-day period may be renewed no more than twice. (b) The owner of a reserved corporate name may transfer the reservation to another person by delivering to the Secretary of State a signed notice of the transfer that states the name and address of the transferee.</p> <p><u>A person may reserve the exclusive use of a business name by delivering an application to the Secretary of State for filing pursuant to 11 V.S.A. § 1652.</u></p>	Harmonize reserved name provisions
10	11A V.S.A. § 4.03	<p>§ 4.03. Registered name (a) A foreign corporation may register its corporate name, or its <u>alternate name or corporate name</u> with any addition required by section 15.06 of this title, if the name is distinguishable in the records of the Secretary of State from the corporate or business names that are not available under section 4.01(b)(3) of this title. (b) A foreign corporation registers its corporate name, or its <u>alternate name or corporate name</u> with any addition required by section 15.06 of this title, by delivering to the Secretary of State for filing an application: (1) setting forth its corporate name, or its <u>alternate name or corporate name</u> with any addition required by section 15.06 of this title, the state or country and date of its incorporation, and a brief description of the nature of the business in which it is engaged; and (2) accompanied by a certificate of good standing or a document of similar import from the state or country of incorporation. (c) The name is registered for the applicant's exclusive use upon the effective date of the application. (d) A foreign corporation whose registration is effective may renew it for successive years by delivering to the Secretary of State for filing a renewal application, which complies with the requirements of subsection (b) of this section, between October 1 and December 31 of the preceding year. The renewal application when filed renews the registration for the following calendar year. (e) A foreign corporation whose registration is effective may thereafter qualify as a foreign corporation under the registered name or consent in writing to the use of that name by a corporation thereafter incorporated under this title or by another foreign corporation thereafter authorized to transact business in this State. The registration terminates when the domestic corporation is incorporated or the foreign corporation qualifies or consents to the qualification of another foreign corporation under the registered name.</p>	Harmonize registered name provisions

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
11	11A V.S.A. § 5.01	<p>§ 5.01. Registered office and registered agent for Service of Process Each corporation must continuously maintain in this State: (1) a registered office that may be the same as any of its places of business; and (2) a registered agent for service of process pursuant to 11 V.S.A. § 1655, who may be: (A) an individual who resides in this State and whose business office is identical with the registered office; (B) a domestic corporation or nonprofit domestic corporation whose business office is identical with the registered office; or (C) a foreign corporation or nonprofit foreign corporation authorized to transact business in this State whose business office is identical with the registered office.</p>	Harmonize agent for service of process provisions
11	11A V.S.A. § 5.02	<p>§ 5.02. Change of registered office or registered agent for service of process (a) A corporation may change its registered office or registered agent for service of process information by delivering to the Secretary of State for filing a statement of change pursuant to 11 V.S.A. § 1655, that sets forth: (1) the name of the corporation; (2) the street address of its current registered office; (3) if the current registered office is to be changed, the street address of the new registered office; (4) the name of its current registered agent; (5) if the current registered agent is to be changed, the name of the new registered agent and the new agent's written consent (either on the statement or attached to it) to the appointment; and (6) that after the change or changes are made, the street addresses of its registered office and the business office of its registered agent will be identical. (b) If a registered agent changes the street address of the agent's business office, the agent may change the street address of the registered office of any corporation for which he or she is the registered agent by notifying the corporation in writing of the change and signing (either manually or in facsimile) and delivering to the Secretary of State for filing a statement that complies with the requirements of subsection (a) of this section and recites that the corporation has been notified of the change.</p>	Harmonize agent for service of process provisions
11	11A V.S.A. § 5.03	<p>§ 5.03. Resignation of registered agent (a) A registered agent may resign his or her agency appointment by signing and delivering to the Secretary of State for filing, and the corporation at its registered office, the signed original and two exact copies of a statement of resignation. The statement may include a statement that the registered office is also discontinued. (b) After filing the statement, the Secretary of State shall mail one copy to the registered office (if not discontinued) and the other copy to the corporation at its principal office. (c) The agency appointment is terminated, and the registered office discontinued if so provided, on the 31st day after the date on which the statement is filed.</p>	Harmonize agent for service of process provisions

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
		<p><u>A registered agent for service of process may resign by filing a statement of resignation pursuant to 11 V.S.A. § 1655.</u></p>	
11	11A V.S.A. § 5.04	<p>§ 5.04. Service on corporation (a) The corporation's registered agent shall be an agent of such corporation upon whom any process, notice, or demand required or permitted by law to be served upon the corporation may be served. (b) Whenever a corporation shall fail to appoint or maintain a registered agent in this State, or whenever its registered agent cannot with reasonable diligence be found at the registered office, then the Secretary of State shall be an agent of such corporation upon whom any such process, notice or demand may be served. Service on the Secretary of State of any such process, notice, or demand shall be made by delivering to and leaving with him or her, or with any clerk having charge of the corporation department of his or her office, duplicate copies of such process, notice, or demand. In the event any such process, notice, or demand is served on the Secretary of State, he or she shall immediately cause one of the copies thereof to be forwarded by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, addressed to the corporation at its registered office. (c) The Secretary of State shall keep a record of all processes, notices, and demands served upon the Secretary under this section, and shall record therein the time of such service and the Secretary's action with reference thereto. (d) Nothing herein contained shall limit or affect the right to serve any process, notice, or demand required or permitted by law to be served upon a corporation in any other manner now or hereafter permitted by law, or by rule.</p> <p><u>A corporation is subject to the service of process provisions in 11 V.S.A. 1656.</u></p>	Harmonize service of process provisions
12	11A V.S.A. § 14.05	<p>§ 14.05. Effect of dissolution (a) A dissolved corporation continues its corporate existence but may not carry on any business except that appropriate to wind up and liquidate its business and affairs, including: (1) collecting its assets; (2) disposing of its properties that will not be distributed in kind to its shareholders; (3) discharging or making provision for discharging its liabilities; (4) distributing its remaining property among its shareholders according to their interests; and (5) doing every other act necessary to wind up and liquidate its business and affairs. (b) Dissolution of a corporation does not: (1) transfer title to the corporation's property;</p>	Harmonize terminology

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
		<p>(2) prevent transfer of its shares or securities, although the authorization to dissolve may provide for closing the corporation’s share transfer records;</p> <p>(3) subject its directors or officers to standards of conduct different from those prescribed in chapter 8 of this title;</p> <p>(4) change quorum or voting requirements for its board of directors or shareholders; change provisions for selection, resignation, or removal of its directors or officers or both; or change provisions for amending its bylaws;</p> <p>(5) prevent commencement of a proceeding by or against the corporation in its corporate name;</p> <p>(6) abate or suspend a proceeding pending by or against the corporation on the effective date of dissolution; or</p> <p>(7) terminate the authority of the registered agent <u>for service of process</u> of the corporation.</p>	
12	11A V.S.A. § 14.20	<p>§ 14.20. Involuntary termination</p> <p>(a) A corporation, which fails to file an annual report required by section 16.22 of this title, shall terminate and the Secretary of State shall notify such corporation of such termination. If, however, such terminated corporation shall file such annual report together with any fee required by law, its charter shall be reinstated by the Secretary of State.</p> <p>(b) When the reinstatement is effective, reinstatement shall relate back to and take effect as of the date of the corporation’s termination under subsection (a) of this section as if the termination had never occurred.</p> <p>(c) A corporation shall lose the right to retain its corporate name if the annual report required under subsection (a) of this section is not filed on or before five years after the date when the report is due, and if another domestic or foreign corporation files articles of incorporation requesting the name of the corporation.</p> <p>(d) Involuntary termination of a corporation does not:</p> <p>(1) prevent commencement of a proceeding against the corporation in its corporate name;</p> <p>(2) abate or suspend a proceeding pending by or against the corporation on the effective date of involuntary termination; or</p> <p>(3) terminate the authority of the registered agent <u>for service of process</u> of the corporation.</p>	Harmonize terminology
13	11A V.S.A. § 15.03	<p>§ 15.03. Application for certificate of authority</p> <p>(a) A foreign corporation may apply for a certificate of authority to transact business in this State by delivering an application and the applicable filing fee to the Secretary of State for filing. The application must set forth:</p> <p>(1) the name of the foreign corporation or, if its name is unavailable for use in this State, a corporate name that satisfies the requirements of section 15.06 of this title;</p> <p>(2) the name of the state or country under whose law it is incorporated;</p> <p>(3) its date of incorporation and period of duration;</p> <p>(4) the street address of its principal office;</p>	

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
		<p>(5) the address of its registered office in this State and the name <u>and email</u> of its registered agent <u>for service of process</u> at that office, pursuant to 11 V.S.A. § 1655; and</p> <p>(6) the names and usual business addresses of its current directors and officers, <u>and of any other principals the corporation provides.</u></p> <p>(b) The foreign corporation shall deliver with the completed application a certificate of good standing (or a document of similar import) duly authenticated by the Secretary of State or other official having custody of corporate records in the state or country under whose law it is incorporated.</p>	<p>Harmonize agent for service of process provisions</p> <p>Harmonize initial filing provisions re: principal information</p>
13	11A V.S.A. § 15.06	<p>§ 15.06. Corporate name of foreign corporation</p> <p>(a) If the corporate name of a foreign corporation does not satisfy the requirements of section 4.01 of this title, the foreign corporation to obtain or maintain a certificate of authority to transact business in this State:</p> <p>(1) may add the word “corporation,” “incorporated,” “company,” or “limited,” or the abbreviation “corp.,” “inc.,” “co.,” or “Ltd.,” to its corporate name for use in this State; or</p> <p>(2) may use an available trade name <u>adopt an alternate name</u> to transact business in this State if its corporate name is unavailable and it delivers to the Secretary of State for filing a copy of the resolution of its board of directors, certified by its secretary, adopting the trade <u>alternate</u> name.</p> <p>(b) Except as authorized by subsections (c) and (d) of this section, the corporate name, including a trade <u>an alternate</u> name, of a foreign corporation shall be distinguishable in the records of the Secretary of State from any name granted, registered, or reserved under this chapter, or the name of any other entity, whether domestic or foreign, that is reserved, registered, or granted by or with the Secretary of State.</p> <p>(c) A foreign corporation may apply to the Secretary of State for authorization to use in this State the name of another corporation incorporated or authorized to transact business in this State that is not distinguishable in the records from one or more of the names described in subsection (b) of this section, by submitting to the Secretary of State a satisfactory written form indicating the other corporation’s consent and change of name.</p> <p>(d) A foreign corporation may use in this State the name, including the trade <u>alternate</u> name, of another domestic or foreign corporation that is used in this State if the other corporation is incorporated or authorized to transact business in this State and the foreign corporation:</p> <p>(1) has merged with the other corporation;</p> <p>(2) has been formed by reorganization of the other corporation; or</p> <p>(3) has acquired all or substantially all of the assets, including the corporate name, of the other corporation.</p> <p>(e) If a foreign corporation authorized to transact business in this State changes its corporate name to one that does not satisfy the requirements of section 4.01 of this title, it may not transact business in this State under the changed name until it</p>	<p>Technical correction to clarify that a foreign corporation may adopt an “alternate name” and does not have to register an assumed business name under 11 V.S.A. chapter 15.</p>

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
		adopts a name satisfying the requirements of section 4.01 and obtains an amended certificate of authority under section 15.04 of this title.	
13	11A V.S.A. § 15.07	<p>§ 15.07. Registered office and registered agent for service of process of foreign corporation</p> <p>Each foreign corporation authorized to transact business in this State must continuously maintain in this State:</p> <p>(1) a registered office that may be the same as any of its places of business; and</p> <p>(2) a registered agent <u>for service of process</u>, pursuant to 11 V.S.A. § 1655, who may be:</p> <p>(A) an individual who resides in this State and whose business office is identical with the registered office;</p> <p>(B) a domestic corporation or domestic not for profit nonprofit corporation whose business office is identical with the registered office; or</p> <p>(C) a foreign corporation or foreign not for profit nonprofit corporation authorized to transact business in this State whose business office is identical with the registered office.</p>	Harmonize agent for service of process provisions
13	11A V.S.A. § 15.08	<p>§ 15.08. Change of registered office or registered agent for service of process of foreign corporation</p> <p>(a) A foreign corporation authorized to transact business in this State may change its registered office or registered agent <u>for service of process</u> by delivering to the Secretary of State for filing a statement of change that sets forth:</p> <p>(1) its name;</p> <p>(2) the street address of its current registered office;</p> <p>(3) if the current registered office is to be changed, the street address of its new registered office;</p> <p>(4) the name of its current registered agent;</p> <p>(5) if the current registered agent is to be changed, the name of its new registered agent and the new agent's written consent (either on the statement or attached to it) to the appointment; and</p> <p>(6) that after the change or changes are made, the street addresses of its registered office and the business office of its registered agent will be identical.</p> <p>(b) If a registered agent changes the street address of his or her business office, he or she may change the street address of the registered office of any foreign corporation for which he or she is the registered agent by notifying the corporation in writing of the change and signing (either manually or in facsimile) and delivering to the Secretary of State for filing a statement of change that complies with the requirements of subsection (a) of this section and recites that the corporation has been notified of the change pursuant to 11 V.S.A. § 1655.</p>	Harmonize agent for service of process provisions
13	11A V.S.A. § 15.09	<p>§ 15.09. Resignation of registered agent for service of process of foreign corporation</p>	Harmonize agent for service of process provisions

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
		<p>(a) The registered agent of a foreign corporation may resign his or her agency by filing a statement of resignation pursuant to 11 V.S.A. 1655. appointment by signing and delivering to the Secretary of State for filing the original and two exact or conformed copies of a statement of resignation. The statement of resignation may include a statement that the registered office is also discontinued.</p> <p>(b) After filing the statement, the Secretary of State shall attach the filing receipt to one copy and mail the copy and receipt to the registered office if not discontinued. The Secretary of State shall mail the other copy to the foreign corporation at its principal office address shown in its most recent annual report.</p> <p>(c) The agency appointment is terminated, and the registered office discontinued if so provided, on the 31st day after the date on which the statement was filed.</p>	
13	11A V.S.A. § 15.10	<p>§ 15.10. Service of process on foreign corporation Service of process on a foreign corporation is governed by 12 V.S.A. subchapter 6, chapter 25 and by the Vermont Rules of Civil Procedure.</p> <p><u>A foreign corporation is subject to the service of process provisions in 11 V.S.A. § 1656.</u></p>	Harmonize service of process provisions
13	11A V.S.A. § 15.30	<p>§ 15.30. Involuntary termination</p> <p>(a) The Secretary of State shall terminate the certificate of authority of a foreign corporation if:</p> <p>(1) the foreign corporation fails to deliver its annual report to the Secretary of State as required by section 16.22 of this title;</p> <p>(2) the foreign corporation does not pay any franchise taxes or penalties imposed by this title or other law;</p> <p>(3) the foreign corporation is without a registered agent <u>for service of process</u> or registered office in this State;</p> <p>(4) the foreign corporation fails to inform the Secretary of State under section 15.08 or 15.09 of this title that its registered agent <u>for service of process</u> or registered office has changed;</p> <p>(5) a material misrepresentation is knowingly made in a signed document delivered to the Secretary of State for filing;</p> <p>(6) the Secretary of State receives a duly authenticated certificate from the Secretary of State or other official having custody of corporation records in the state or country under whose law the foreign corporation is incorporated stating that it has been dissolved or terminated or disappeared as the result of a merger;</p> <p>(7) the foreign corporation has failed to comply with subdivision 11.07(a)(3) of this title requiring it to file articles of merger where it is the survivor of a merger with a domestic corporation; or</p> <p>(8) the Commissioner of Taxes notifies the Secretary of State that a foreign corporation has failed to make a return, to pay a tax, to file a bond, or to do any other act required to be done under the provisions of 32 V.S.A. chapter 211.</p>	Harmonize agent for service of process provisions

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
		<p>(b) The Secretary of State shall serve the foreign corporation with written notice of termination of its certificate of authority under section 15.10 of this title, setting out each deficiency.</p> <p>(c) The authority of a foreign corporation to transact business in this State ceases on the date shown on the notice terminating its certificate of authority. Termination of a foreign corporation’s certificate of authority does not terminate the authority of the registered agent <u>for service of process</u> of the corporation.</p> <p>(d) The Secretary of State’s termination of a foreign corporation’s certificate of authority appoints the Secretary of State the foreign corporation’s agent for service of process in any proceeding based on a cause of action that arose during the time the foreign corporation was authorized to transact or was transacting without authorization business in this State. Service of process on the Secretary of State under this subsection is service on the foreign corporation. Upon receipt of process, the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of the process to the secretary of the foreign corporation at its principal office shown in its most recent annual report or in any subsequent communication received from the corporation stating the current mailing address of its principal office, or, if none is on file, in its application for a certificate of authority, or otherwise perfect service under section 15.10 of this title.</p> <p>(e) If the foreign corporation corrects each ground for termination and demonstrates to the reasonable satisfaction of the Secretary of State that each ground cited in the notice of termination does not exist, and pays to the Secretary of State a <u>reinstatement</u> fee of \$25.00 for each year it is delinquent, the secretary may cancel the termination and prepare a certificate of reinstatement, file the original of the certificate, and serve a copy on the corporation under section 15.10 of this title.</p> <p>(f) When the reinstatement is effective, reinstatement shall relate back to and take effect as of the effective date of the foreign corporation’s involuntary termination under this section as if the involuntary termination had never occurred.</p> <p>(g) A foreign corporation shall lose the right to retain its registered name, if its annual report required under subsection (a) of this section is not filed on or before five years after the date that the report is due, and if another domestic or foreign corporation files a request for the name with the Secretary of State.</p>	<p>Technical correction</p>
14	11A V.S.A. § 16.22	<p>§ 16.22. Annual report for Secretary of State</p> <p>(a) Each domestic corporation, and each foreign corporation authorized to transact business in this State, shall deliver to the Secretary of State for filing an annual report that sets forth:</p> <p>(1) the name of the corporation and the state or country under whose law it is incorporated;</p> <p>(2) the address of its registered office and the name <u>and email</u> of its registered agent <u>for service of process</u> at that office in this State;</p> <p>(3) the address of its principal office;</p> <p>(4) the names and business addresses of its directors and the president, secretary, treasurer, and all other officers with policy-making authority.</p>	<p>Harmonize AR/BR provisions re: principal and contact information</p>

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
		<p>(b) Information in the annual report must be current as of the date the annual report is executed on behalf of the corporation.</p> <p>(c) The annual report shall be delivered to the Secretary of State within two and one-half months after the expiration of the corporation’s fiscal year.</p> <p>(d) If an annual report does not contain the information required by this section, the Secretary of State shall promptly notify the reporting domestic or foreign corporation in writing and return the report to it for correction. If the report is corrected to contain the information required by this section and delivered to the Secretary of State within 30 days after the effective date of notice, it is deemed to be timely filed.</p> <p>(e) Listing the name of the registered agent and the address of the registered office does not effectuate a change in such agent or office unless the report also contains the requirements of section 5.02 of this title. The Secretary of State shall amend its records to reflect a change, if specified in the report, to the business’s purpose, email, address, or principal information.</p>	
Nonprofit Corporations – Title 11B			
15	11B V.S.A. § 1.21	<p>§ 1.21. Forms</p> <p>(a) The Secretary of State may prescribe the form or electronic format of and furnish on request, forms or specifications for formats for:</p> <p>(1) an application for a certificate of existence <u>good standing</u>;</p> <p>(2) a foreign corporation’s application for a certificate of authority to transact business in this State;</p> <p>(3) a foreign corporation’s application for a certificate of withdrawal; and</p> <p>(4) the biennial report.</p> <p>(b) The Secretary of State may prescribe and furnish on request forms for other documents required or permitted to be filed by this title but their use is not mandatory.</p>	Correct terminology
16	11B V.S.A. § 2.02	<p>§ 2.02. Articles of incorporation</p> <p>(a) The articles of incorporation must set forth:</p> <p>(1) a corporate name for the corporation that satisfies the requirements of section 4.01 of this title;</p> <p>(2) one of the following statements:</p> <p>(A) This corporation is a public benefit corporation.</p> <p>(B) This corporation is a mutual benefit corporation.</p> <p>(3) the street address of the corporation’s initial registered office and the name <u>and email</u> of its initial registered agent <u>for service of process</u> at that office, <u>pursuant to 11 V.S.A. § 1655</u>;</p> <p>(4) the name and address of each incorporator;</p> <p>(5) whether or not the corporation will have members; and</p>	Harmonize agent for service of process provisions

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
		<p>(6) provisions not inconsistent with law regarding the distribution of assets on dissolution.</p> <p>(b) The articles of incorporation may set forth:</p> <p>(1) the purpose or purposes for which the corporation is organized, which may be, either alone or in combination with other purposes, the transaction of any lawful activity;</p> <p>(2) the names and addresses of the individuals who are to serve as the initial directors, and of any other principals the corporation provides;</p> <p>(3) provisions not inconsistent with law regarding:</p> <p>(A) managing and regulating the affairs of the corporation;</p> <p>(B) defining, limiting, and regulating the powers of the corporation, its board of directors, and members (or any class of members);</p> <p>(C) the characteristics, qualifications, rights, limitations, and obligations attaching to each or any class of members; and</p> <p>(4) any provision that under this title is required or permitted to be set forth in the bylaws.</p> <p>(c) Each incorporator and director named in the articles must sign the articles.</p> <p>(d) The articles of incorporation need not set forth any of the corporate powers enumerated in this title.</p>	<p>Harmonize initial filing provisions re: principal and contact information</p>
17	11B V.S.A. § 4.02	<p>§ 4.02. Reserved name</p> <p>(a) A person may reserve the exclusive use of a corporate name, including a fictitious name for a foreign corporation whose corporate name is not available, by delivering an application to the Secretary of State for filing. Upon finding that the corporate name applied for is available, the Secretary of State shall reserve the name for the applicant's exclusive use for a 120-day period. Such 120-day period may be renewed no more than twice.</p> <p>(b) The owner of a reserved corporate name may transfer the reservation to another person by delivering to the Secretary of State a signed notice of the transfer that states the name and address of the transferee.</p> <p><u>A person may reserve the exclusive use of a business name by delivering an application to the Secretary of State for filing pursuant to 11 V.S.A. § 1652.</u></p>	<p>Harmonize reserved name provisions</p>
17	11B V.S.A. § 4.03	<p>§ 4.03. Registered name</p> <p>(a) A foreign corporation may register its corporate name, or its <u>alternate name or corporate name</u> with any addition required by section 15.06 of this title, if the name is distinguishable upon the records of the Secretary of State from:</p> <p>(1) the corporate name of a nonprofit or business corporation incorporated or authorized to do business in this State; and</p> <p>(2) a corporate name reserved under section 4.02 of this title or 11A V.S.A. § 4.02 or registered under this section.</p>	<p>Harmonize registered name provisions</p>

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
		<p>(b) A foreign corporation registers its corporate name, or its <u>alternate name</u> corporate name with any addition required by section 15.06 of this title, by delivering to the Secretary of State an application:</p> <p>(1) setting forth its corporate name, or its <u>alternate name</u> or corporate name with any addition required by section 15.06 of this title, the state or country and date of its incorporation, and a brief description of the nature of the activities in which it is engaged; and</p> <p>(2) accompanied by a certificate of existence (or a document of similar import) from the state or country of incorporation.</p> <p>(c) The name is registered for the applicant’s exclusive use upon the effective date of the application.</p> <p>(d) A foreign corporation whose registration is effective may renew it for successive years by delivering to the Secretary of State for filing a renewal application, which complies with the requirements of subsection (b) of this section, between October 1 and December 31 of the preceding year. The renewal application when filed renews the registration for the following calendar year.</p> <p>(e) A foreign corporation whose registration is effective may thereafter qualify as a foreign corporation under the registered name or consent in writing to the use of that name by a corporation thereafter incorporated under this title or by another foreign corporation thereafter authorized to transact business in this State. The registration terminates when the domestic corporation is incorporated or the foreign corporation qualifies or consents to the qualification of another foreign corporation under the registered name.</p>	
18	11B V.S.A. § 5.01	<p>§ 5.01. Registered office and registered agent for service of process <u>Each corporation must continuously maintain in this State:</u> (1) a registered office that may be the same as any of its places of business; and (2) a registered agent for service of process, pursuant to 11 V.S.A. § 1655, whose business office is identical with the registered office.</p>	Add missing provision/harmonize agent for service of process provisions
18	11B V.S.A. § 5.02	<p>§ 5.02. Change of registered office or registered agent for service of process (a) A corporation may change its registered office or registered agent <u>for service of process</u> by delivering to the Secretary of State for filing a statement of change pursuant to 11 V.S.A. § 1655. that sets forth:</p> <p>(1) the name of the corporation; (2) the street address of its current registered office; (3) if the current registered office is to be changed, the street address of the new registered office; (4) the name of its current registered agent; (5) if the current registered agent is to be changed, the name of the new registered agent and the new agent’s written consent (either on the statement or attached to it) to the appointment; and</p>	Harmonize agent for service of process provisions

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
		<p>(6) that after the change or changes are made, the street addresses of its registered office and the office of its registered agent will be identical.</p> <p>(b) If the street address of a registered agent's office is changed, the registered agent may change the street address of the registered office of any corporation for which the registered agent is the registered agent by notifying the corporation in writing of the change and by signing (either manually or in facsimile) and delivering to the Secretary of State for filing a statement that complies with the requirements of subsection (a) of this section and recites that the corporation has been notified of the change.</p>	
18	11B V.S.A. § 5.03	<p>§ 5.03. Resignation of registered agent <u>for service of process</u></p> <p>(a) A registered agent may resign as registered agent by signing and delivering to the Secretary of State a statement of resignation pursuant to 11 V.S.A. § 1655, the original and two exact or conformed copies of a statement of resignation. The statement may include a statement that the registered office is also discontinued.</p> <p>(b) After filing the statement, the Secretary of State shall mail one copy to the registered office (if not discontinued) and the other copy to the corporation at its principal office as shown in the most recent biennial report filed pursuant to section 16.22 of this title.</p> <p>(c) The agency appointment is terminated, and the registered office discontinued if so provided, on the 31st day after the date on which the statement is filed.</p>	Harmonize agent for service of process provisions
18	11B V.S.A. § 5.04	<p>§ 5.04. Service on corporation</p> <p>(a) The corporation's registered agent shall be an agent of such corporation upon whom any process, notice, or demand required or permitted by law to be served upon the corporation may be served.</p> <p>(b) Whenever a corporation shall fail to appoint or maintain a registered agent in this State, or whenever its registered agent cannot with reasonable diligence be found at the registered office, then the Secretary of State shall be an agent of such corporation upon whom any such process, notice, or demand may be served. Service on the Secretary of State of any such process, notice, or demand shall be made by delivering to and leaving with him or her, or with any clerk having charge of the corporation department of his or her office, duplicate copies of such process, notice, or demand. In the event any such process, notice, or demand is served on the Secretary of State, he or she shall immediately cause one of the copies thereof to be forwarded by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, addressed to the corporation at its registered office.</p> <p>(c) The Secretary of State shall keep a record of all processes, notices, and demands served upon the Secretary under this section, and shall record therein the time of such service and the Secretary's action with reference thereto.</p> <p>(d) Nothing herein contained shall limit or affect the right to serve any process, notice, or demand required or permitted by law to be served upon a corporation in any other manner now or hereafter permitted by law, or by rule.</p>	Harmonize service of process provisions

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
		<p><u>A corporation is subject to the service of process provisions in 11 V.S.A. § 1656.</u></p>	
19	11B V.S.A. § 14.05	<p>§ 14.05. Effect of dissolution *** (b) Dissolution of a corporation does not: (1) transfer title to the corporation’s property; (2) subject its directors or officers to standards of conduct different from those prescribed in chapter 8 of this title; (3) change quorum or voting requirements for its board or members; change provisions for selection, resignation, or removal of its directors or officers or both; or change provisions for amending its bylaws; (4) prevent commencement of a proceeding by or against the corporation in its corporate name; (5) abate or suspend a proceeding pending by or against the corporation on the effective date of dissolution; or (6) terminate the authority of the registered agent <u>for service of process</u>.</p>	<p>Harmonize terminology</p>
19	11B V.S.A. § 14.20	<p>§ 14.20. Involuntary termination The Secretary of State may commence a proceeding under section 14.21 of this title to administratively dissolve a corporation if: (1) the corporation does not pay within 60 days after they are due fees imposed by this title; (2) the corporation does not deliver its biennial report to the Secretary of State within 60 days after it is due; (3) the corporation is without a registered agent <u>for service of process</u> or registered office in this State for 60 days or more; or (4) the corporation does not notify the Secretary of State within 120 days that its registered agent <u>for service of process</u> or registered office has been changed, that its registered agent <u>for service of process</u> has resigned, or that its registered office has been discontinued.</p>	<p>Harmonize terminology</p>
19	11B V.S.A. § 14.21	<p>§ 14.21. Procedure for and effect of involuntary termination (a) Upon determining that one or more grounds exist under section 14.20 of this title for dissolving a corporation, the Secretary of State shall serve the corporation with written notice of that determination under section 5.04 of this title. (b) If the corporation does not correct each ground for dissolution or demonstrate to the reasonable satisfaction of the Secretary of State that each ground determined by the Secretary of State does not exist within at least 60 days after service of the notice is perfected under section 5.04 of this title, the Secretary of State may administratively dissolve the corporation by signing a certificate of dissolution that recites the ground or grounds for dissolution and its effective date. The Secretary of State shall file the original of the certificate and serve a copy on the corporation</p>	<p>Harmonize terminology</p>

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
		<p>under section 5.04 of this title, and in the case of a public benefit corporation shall notify the Attorney General in writing.</p> <p>(c) A corporation involuntarily dissolved continues its corporate existence but may not carry on any activities except those necessary to wind up and liquidate its affairs under section 14.05 of this title and notify its claimants under sections 14.06 and 14.07 of this title.</p> <p>(d) The involuntarily <u>involuntary</u> dissolution of a corporation does not terminate the authority of its registered agent <u>for service of process</u>.</p>	
20	11B V.S.A. § 15.03	<p>§ 15.03. Application for certificate of authority</p> <p>(a) A foreign corporation may apply for a certificate of authority to transact business in this State by delivering an application to the Secretary of State. The application must set forth:</p> <p>(1) the name of the foreign corporation or, if its name is unavailable for use in this State, a corporate name that satisfies the requirements of section 15.06 of this title;</p> <p>(2) the name of the state or country under whose law it is incorporated;</p> <p>(3) the date of incorporation and period of duration;</p> <p>(4) the street address of its principal office;</p> <p>(5) the address of its registered office in this State and the name <u>and email</u> of its registered agent <u>for service of process</u> at that office;</p> <p>(6) the names and usual business or home addresses of its current directors and officers <u>and of any other principals the corporation provides</u>;</p> <p>(7) whether the foreign corporation has members; and</p> <p>(8) whether the corporation, if it had been incorporated in this State, would be a public benefit or mutual benefit corporation.</p> <p>(b) The foreign corporation shall deliver with the completed application a certificate of existence (or a document of similar import) duly authenticated by the Secretary of State or other official having custody of corporate records in the state or country under whose law it is incorporated.</p>	<p>Harmonize agent for service of process provisions</p> <p>Harmonize initial filing provisions re: principal and contact information</p>
20	11B V.S.A. § 15.06	<p>§ 15.06. Corporate name of foreign corporation</p> <p>(a) If the corporate name of a foreign corporation does not satisfy the requirements of section 4.01 of this title, the foreign corporation to obtain or maintain a certificate of authority to transact business in this State:</p> <p>(1) may add the word “corporation,” “incorporated,” “company,” or “limited,” or the abbreviation “corp.,” “inc.,” “co.,” or “Ltd.,” to its corporate name for use in this State; or</p> <p>(2) may use an available trade <u>adopt an alternate</u> name to transact business in this State if its corporate name is unavailable and it delivers to the Secretary of State for filing a copy of the resolution of its board of directors, certified by its secretary, adopting the trade <u>alternate</u> name.</p> <p>(b) Except as authorized by subsections (c) and (d) of this section, the corporate name (including a trade <u>alternate</u> name) of a foreign corporation must be</p>	<p>Technical correction to clarify that a foreign corporation may adopt an “alternate name” and does not have to register an assumed business name under 11 V.S.A. chapter 15.</p>

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
		<p>distinguishable upon the records of the Secretary of State from reserved or registered trade names or corporate names.</p> <p>(c) A foreign corporation may apply to the Secretary of State for authorization to use in this State the name of another corporation incorporated or authorized to transact business in this State that is not distinguishable upon the records from the name applied for by submitting to the Secretary of State a satisfactory written form indicating the other corporation’s consent and change of name.</p> <p>(d) A foreign corporation may use in this State the name (including the trade an <u>alternate</u> name) of another domestic or foreign corporation that is used in this State if the other corporation is incorporated or authorized to transact business in this State and the foreign corporation:</p> <p>(1) has merged with the other corporation;</p> <p>(2) has been formed by reorganization of the other corporation; or</p> <p>(3) has acquired all or substantially all of the assets, including the corporate name, of the other corporation.</p> <p>(e) If a foreign corporation authorized to transact business in this State changes its corporate name to one that does not satisfy the requirements of section 4.01 of this title, it may not transact business in this State under the changed name until it adopts a name satisfying the requirements of section 4.01 and obtains an amended certificate of authority under section 15.04 of this title.</p>	
20	11B V.S.A. § 15.07	<p>§ 15.07. Registered office and registered agent for service of process of foreign corporation</p> <p>Each foreign corporation authorized to transact business in this State must continuously maintain in this State:</p> <p>(1) a registered office with the same address as that of its registered agent <u>for service of process</u>; and</p> <p>(2) a registered agent <u>for service of process</u>, who may be:</p> <p>(A) an individual who resides in this State and whose office is identical with the registered office;</p> <p>(B) a domestic business or nonprofit corporation whose office is identical with the registered office; or</p> <p>(C) a foreign business or nonprofit corporation authorized to transact business in this State whose office is identical with the registered office pursuant to 11 V.S.A. § 1655.</p>	Harmonize agent for service of process provisions
20	11B V.S.A. § 15.08	<p>§ 15.08. Change of registered office or registered agent for service of process of foreign corporation</p> <p>(a) A foreign corporation authorized to transact business in this State may change its registered office or registered agent <u>for service of process</u> by delivering to the Secretary of State for filing a statement of change that sets forth:</p> <p>(1) its name;</p> <p>(2) the street address of its current registered office;</p>	Harmonize agent for service of process provisions

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
		<p>(3) if the current registered office is to be changed, the street address of its new registered office;</p> <p>(4) the name of its current registered agent;</p> <p>(5) if the current registered agent is to be changed, the name of its new registered agent and the new agent’s written consent (either on the statement or attached to it) to the appointment; and</p> <p>(6) that after the change or changes are made, the street addresses of its registered office and the office of its registered agent will be identical.</p> <p>(b) If a registered agent changes the street address of its business office, the agent may change the address of the registered office of any foreign corporation for which the agent is the registered agent by notifying the corporation in writing of the change and signing (either manually or in facsimile) and delivering to the Secretary of State for filing a statement of change that complies with the requirements of subsection (a) of this section and recites that the corporation has been notified of the change pursuant to 11 V.S.A. § 1655.</p>	
20	11B V.S.A. § 15.09	<p>§ 15.09. Resignation of registered agent of foreign corporation</p> <p>(a) The registered agent of a foreign corporation may resign as agent by signing and delivering to the Secretary of State for filing a <u>statement of resignation</u> pursuant to 11 V.S.A. § 1655. the original and two exact or conformed copies of a statement of resignation. The statement of resignation may include a statement that the registered office is also discontinued.</p> <p>(b) After filing the statement, the Secretary of State shall attach the filing receipt to one copy and mail the copy and receipt to the registered office if not discontinued. The Secretary of State shall mail the other copy to the foreign corporation at its principal office address shown in its most recent biennial report.</p> <p>(c) The agency is terminated, and the registered office discontinued if so provided, on the 31st day after the date on which the statement was filed.</p>	Harmonize agent for service of process provisions
20	11B V.S.A. § 15.10	<p>§ 15.10. Service on foreign corporation</p> <p>(a) The registered agent of a foreign corporation authorized to transact business in this State is the corporation’s agent for service of process, notice, or demand required or permitted by law to be served on the foreign corporation.</p> <p>(b) A foreign corporation may be served by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, addressed to the secretary of the foreign corporation at its principal office shown in its application for a certificate of authority or in its most recent biennial report filed under section 16.22 of this title if the foreign corporation:</p> <p>(1) has no registered agent or its registered agent cannot with reasonable diligence be served;</p> <p>(2) has withdrawn from transacting business in this State under section 15.20 of this title; or</p> <p>(3) has had its certificate of authority revoked under section 15.31 of this title.</p> <p>(c) Service is perfected under subsection (b) of this section at the earliest of:</p>	Harmonize service of process provisions

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
		<p>(1) the date the foreign corporation receives the mail; (2) the date shown on the return receipt, if signed on behalf of the foreign corporation; or (3) five days after its deposit in the U.S. mail, as evidenced by the postmark if mailed postpaid and correctly addressed. (d) This section does not prescribe the only means, or necessarily the required means, of serving a foreign corporation.</p> <p><u>A foreign corporation is subject to the service of process provisions in 11 V.S.A. § 1656.</u></p>	
20	11B V.S.A. § 15.20	<p>§ 15.20. Withdrawal of foreign corporation (a) A foreign corporation authorized to transact business in this State may not withdraw from this State until it obtains a certificate of withdrawal from the Secretary of State. (b) A foreign corporation authorized to transact business in this State may apply for a certificate of withdrawal by delivering an application to the Secretary of State for filing. The application must set forth: (1) the name of the foreign corporation and the name of the state or country under whose law it is incorporated; (2) that it is not transacting business in this State and that it surrenders its authority to transact business in this State; (3) that it revokes the authority of its registered agent <u>for service of process</u> to accept service on its behalf and appoints the Secretary of State as its agent for service of process in any proceeding based on a cause of action arising during the time it was authorized to do business in this State; (4) a mailing address to which the Secretary of State may mail a copy of any process served on him or her under subdivision (3) of this subsection; and (5) a commitment to notify the Secretary of State in the future of any change in the mailing address. (c) After the withdrawal of the corporation is effective, service of process on the Secretary of State under this section is service on the foreign corporation. Upon receipt of process, the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of the process to the foreign corporation at the post office address set forth in its application for withdrawal, or otherwise perfect service under section 15.10 of this title.</p>	Harmonize terminology
20	11B V.S.A. § 15.30	<p>§ 15.30. Involuntary termination (a) The Secretary of State shall terminate the certificate of authority of a foreign corporation if: (1) the foreign corporation fails to deliver its biennial report to the Secretary of State as required by section 16.22 of this title; (2) the foreign corporation does not pay any penalties imposed by this title or other law;</p>	Harmonize terminology

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
		<p>(3) the foreign corporation is without a registered agent <u>for service of process</u> or registered office in this State;</p> <p>(4) the foreign corporation fails to inform the Secretary of State under section 15.08 or 15.09 of this title that its registered agent <u>for service of process</u> or registered office has changed;</p> <p>(5) a material misrepresentation is knowingly made in a signed document delivered to the Secretary of State for filing;</p> <p>(6) the Secretary of State receives a duly authenticated certificate from the secretary of state or other official having custody of corporation records in the state or country under whose law the foreign corporation is incorporated stating that it has been dissolved or terminated or disappeared as the result of a merger; or</p> <p>(7) the foreign corporation has failed to comply with subdivision 11.07(a) of this title requiring it to file articles of merger where it is the survivor of a merger with a domestic corporation.</p> <p>(b) The Secretary of State shall serve the foreign corporation with written notice of termination of its certificate of authority under section 15.10 of this title, setting out each deficiency.</p> <p>(c) The authority of a foreign corporation to transact business in this State ceases on the date shown on the notice terminating its certificate of authority. Termination of a foreign corporation’s certificate of authority does not terminate the authority of the registered agent <u>for service of process</u> of the corporation.</p> <p>(d) The Secretary of State’s termination of a foreign corporation’s certificate of authority appoints the Secretary of State the foreign corporation’s agent for service of process in any proceeding based on a cause of action that arose during the time the foreign corporation was authorized to transact or was transacting without authorization business in this State. Service of process on the Secretary of State under this subsection is service on the foreign corporation. Upon receipt of process, the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of the process to the secretary of the foreign corporation at its principal office shown in its most recent biennial report or in any subsequent communication received from the corporation stating the current mailing address of its principal office, or, if none is on file, in its application for a certificate of authority, or otherwise perfect service under section 15.10 of this title. ***</p>	
21	11B V.S.A. § 16.22	<p>§ 16.22. Biennial report for Secretary of State</p> <p>(a) Each domestic corporation, and each foreign corporation authorized to transact business in this State, shall deliver to the Secretary of State a biennial report on a form prescribed and furnished by the Secretary of State that sets forth:</p> <p>(1) the name of the corporation and the state or country under whose law it is incorporated;</p> <p>(2) the address of its registered office and the name <u>and email</u> of its registered agent <u>for service of process</u> at the office in this State;</p>	<p>Harmonize AR/BR provisions re: principal and contact information</p>

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
		<p>(3) the address of its principal office; (4) the names and business or residence addresses of its directors and principal officers; and (5) a brief description of the nature of its activities. (b) The information in the biennial report must be current on the date the biennial report is executed on behalf of the corporation. (c) The first biennial report must be delivered to the Secretary of State between January 1 and April 1 of the year following the calendar year in which a domestic corporation was incorporated or a foreign corporation was authorized to transact business. Subsequent biennial reports must be delivered to the Secretary of State between January 1 and April 1 following each succeeding two calendar years. (d) If a biennial report does not contain the information required by this section, the Secretary of State shall promptly notify the reporting domestic or foreign corporation in writing and return the report to it for correction. If the report is corrected to contain the information required by this section and delivered to the Secretary of State within 30 days after the effective date of notice, it is deemed to be timely filed. <u>(e) The Secretary of State shall amend its records to reflect a change, if specified in the report, to the business’s purpose, email, address, or principal information.</u></p>	
Mutual Benefit Enterprises – Title 11C			
22	11C V.S.A. § 112	<p>§ 112. Reservation of name (a) A person may reserve the exclusive use of the name of a mutual benefit enterprise, including a fictitious name for a foreign enterprise whose name is not available under section 111 of this title, by delivering an application to the Secretary of State for filing. The application shall set forth the name and address of the applicant and the name proposed to be reserved. If the Secretary of State finds that the name applied for is available under section 111 of this title, the Secretary of State shall reserve the name for the applicant’s exclusive use for a nonrenewable period of 120 days. (b) A person who has reserved a name for a mutual benefit enterprise may transfer the reservation to another person by delivering to the Secretary of State a signed notice of the transfer which states the name, street address, and, if different, the mailing address of the transferee. If the person is an organizer of the enterprise and the name of the enterprise is the same as the reserved name, the delivery of articles of organization for filing by the Secretary of State is a transfer by the person to the enterprise.</p> <p><u>A person may reserve the exclusive use of a business name by delivering an application to the Secretary of State for filing pursuant to 11 V.S.A. § 1652.</u></p>	Harmonize reserved name provisions

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
22	11C V.S.A. § 117	<p>§ 117. Designated office and agent for service of process (a) A mutual benefit enterprise or a foreign enterprise that has a certificate of authority under section 1404 of this title shall designate and continuously maintain in this State:</p> <p>(1) an office, as its designated office, which need not be a place of the enterprise’s or foreign enterprise’s activity in this State; and (2) an agent for service of process, pursuant to 11 V.S.A. § 1655, at the designated office.</p> <p>(b) An agent for service of process of a mutual benefit enterprise or foreign enterprise shall be an individual who is a resident of this State or an entity that is authorized to do business in this State.</p>	Harmonize agent for service of process provisions
22	11C V.S.A. § 118	<p>§ 118. Change of designated office or agent for service of process (a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection 207(e) of this title, to change its designated office, its agent for service of process, or the street address or, if different, mailing address of its principal office, a mutual benefit enterprise shall deliver to the Secretary of State for filing a statement of change containing:</p> <p>(1) the name of the mutual benefit enterprise; (2) the street address and, if different, mailing address of its designated office; (3) if the designated office is to be changed, the street address and, if different, mailing address of the new designated office; (4) the name of its agent for service of process; and (5) if the agent for service of process is to be changed, the name of the new agent.</p> <p>(b) Except as otherwise provided in subsection 207(e) of this title, to change its agent for service of process, the address of its designated office, or the street address or, if different, mailing address of its principal office, a foreign enterprise shall deliver to the Secretary of State for filing a statement of change containing:</p> <p>(1) the name of the foreign enterprise; (2) the name, street address, and, if different, mailing address of its designated office; (3) if the current agent for service of process or an address of the designated office is to be changed, the new information; (4) the street address and, if different, the mailing address of its principal office; and (5) if the street address or, if different, the mailing address of its principal office is to be changed, the street address and, if different, the mailing address of the new principal office.</p> <p>(c) Except as otherwise provided in section 204 of this title, a statement of change is effective when filed by the Secretary of State.</p>	Harmonize agent for service of process provisions

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
		<p><u>A mutual benefit enterprise or foreign enterprise shall change its designated office or agent for service of process information by submitting to the Secretary of State for filing a statement of change pursuant to 11 V.S.A. § 1655.</u></p>	
22	11C V.S.A. § 119	<p>§ 119. Resignation of agent for service of process (a) To resign as an agent for service of process of a mutual benefit enterprise or foreign enterprise, the agent shall deliver to the Secretary of State for filing a statement of resignation containing the name of the agent and the name of the enterprise or foreign enterprise. (b) After receiving a statement of resignation under subsection (a) of this section, the Secretary of State shall file it and mail or otherwise provide or deliver a copy to the mutual benefit enterprise or foreign enterprise at its principal office. (c) An agency for service of process of a mutual benefit enterprise or foreign enterprise terminates on the earlier of: (1) the 31st day after the Secretary of State files a statement of resignation under subsection (b) of this section; or (2) when a record designating a new agent for service of process is delivered to the Secretary of State for filing on behalf of the enterprise or foreign enterprise and becomes effective.</p> <p><u>An agent for service of process may resign by submitting to the Secretary of State for filing a statement of resignation pursuant to 11 V.S.A. § 1655.</u></p>	Harmonize agent for service of process provisions
22	11C V.S.A. § 120	<p>§ 120. Service of process (a) An agent for service of process appointed by a mutual benefit enterprise or foreign enterprise is an agent of the enterprise or foreign enterprise for service of process, notice, or a demand required or permitted by law to be served upon the enterprise or foreign enterprise. (b) If a mutual benefit enterprise or foreign enterprise does not appoint or maintain an agent for service of process in this State or the agent for service of process cannot with reasonable diligence be found at the address of the designated office on file with the Secretary of State, the Secretary of State is an agent of the enterprise or foreign enterprise upon which process, notice, or a demand may be served. (c) Service of process, notice, or a demand on the Secretary of State as agent of a mutual benefit enterprise or foreign enterprise may be made by delivering to the Secretary of State two copies of the process, notice, or demand. The Secretary of State shall forward one copy by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, to the enterprise or foreign enterprise at its principal office. (d) Service is effected under subsection (c) of this section on the earliest of: (1) the date the mutual benefit enterprise or foreign enterprise receives the process, notice, or demand;</p>	Harmonize service of process provisions

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
		<p>(2) the date shown on the return receipt, if signed on behalf of the enterprise or foreign enterprise; or (3) five days after the process, notice, or demand is deposited by the Secretary of State for delivery by the U.S. Postal Service, if postage is prepaid to the address of the principal office on file with the Secretary of State. (e) The Secretary of State shall keep a record of each process, notice, and demand served pursuant to this section and record the time of and the action taken regarding the service. (f) This section does not affect the right to serve process, notice, or a demand in any other manner provided by law.</p> <p><u>A mutual benefit enterprise or foreign enterprise is subject to the service of process provisions in 11 V.S.A. § 1656.</u></p>	
23	11C V.S.A. § 202	<p>§ 202. Signing and filing of records pursuant to judicial order (a) If a person required by this title to sign or deliver a record to the Secretary of State for filing does not do so, the Superior Court of the county of the mutual benefit enterprise’s principal office or the foreign enterprise’s registered <u>designated</u> office, upon petition of an aggrieved person, may order: (1) the person to sign the record and deliver it to the Secretary of State for filing; or (2) delivery of the unsigned record to the Secretary of State for filing. (b) An aggrieved person under subsection (a) of this section, other than the mutual benefit enterprise or foreign enterprise to which the record pertains, shall make the enterprise or foreign enterprise a party to the action brought to obtain the order. (c) An unsigned record filed pursuant to this section is effective.</p>	Correct terminology
23	11C V.S.A. § 206	<p>§ 206. Certificate of good standing or authorization (a) The Secretary of State, upon request and payment of the required fee, shall furnish any person that requests it a certificate of good standing for a mutual benefit enterprise if the records filed in the Office of the Secretary of State show that the Secretary of State has filed the enterprise’s articles of organization, that the enterprise is in good standing, and that the Secretary of State has not filed a statement of termination. (b) The Secretary of State, upon request and payment of the required fee, shall furnish to any person that requests it a certificate of authority <u>authorization</u> for a foreign enterprise if the records filed in the Office of the Secretary of State show that the Secretary of State has filed the foreign enterprise’s certificate of authority, has not revoked nor has reason to revoke the certificate of authority, and has not filed a notice of cancellation. (c) Subject to any exceptions stated in the certificate, a certificate of good standing or authority <u>authorization</u> issued by the Secretary of State establishes conclusively that the mutual benefit enterprise or foreign enterprise is in good standing or is authorized to transact business in this State.</p>	Correct terminology

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
23	11C V.S.A. § 207	<p>§ 207. Annual report for Secretary of State</p> <p>(a) A mutual benefit enterprise or foreign enterprise authorized to transact business in this State shall deliver to the Secretary of State for filing an annual report that states:</p> <p>(1) the name of the enterprise or foreign enterprise;</p> <p>(2) the street address and, if different, mailing address of the enterprise’s or foreign enterprise’s designated office and the name of its agent for service of process at the designated office;</p> <p>(3) the street address and, if different, mailing address of the enterprise’s or foreign enterprise’s principal office;</p> <p>(4) the name and business address of any director or officer; and</p> <p>(5) in the case of a foreign enterprise, the state or other jurisdiction under whose law the foreign enterprise is formed and any alternative name adopted under section 1405 of this title.</p> <p>(b) Information in an annual report shall be current as of the date the report is delivered to the Secretary of State.</p> <p>(c) A mutual benefit enterprise or foreign enterprise authorized to transact business in this State shall deliver its annual report to the Secretary for filing between January 1 and April 1 of each year, beginning in the year following the calendar year in which the mutual benefit enterprise is formed or the foreign enterprise is authorized to transact business in this State.</p> <p>(d) If an annual report does not contain the information required by subsection (a) of this section, the Secretary of State shall promptly notify the reporting mutual benefit enterprise or foreign enterprise and return the report for correction. If the report is corrected to contain the information required by subsection (a) of this section and delivered to the Secretary of State not later than 30 days after the date of the notice from the Secretary of State, it is timely delivered.</p> <p>(e) If a filed annual report contains an address of the designated office, the name or business address of a director or officer, or address of the principal office which differs from the information shown in the records of the Secretary of State immediately before the filing, the differing information in the annual report is considered a statement of change <u>The Secretary of State shall amend its records to reflect a change, if specified in the report, to the business’s purpose, email, address, or principal information.</u></p> <p>(f) If a mutual benefit enterprise fails to deliver an annual report under this section, the Secretary of State may proceed under section 1211 of this title to dissolve the enterprise administratively.</p> <p>(g) If a foreign enterprise fails to deliver an annual report under this section, the Secretary of State may revoke the certificate of authority of the enterprise.</p>	<p>Harmonize AR/BR provisions re: principal and contact information</p>
24	11C V.S.A. § 1402	<p>§ 1402. Application for certificate of authority</p> <p>(a) A foreign enterprise may apply for a certificate of authority by delivering an application to the Secretary of State for filing. The application shall state:</p>	

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
		<p>(1) the name of the foreign enterprise and, if the name does not comply with section 111 of this title, an alternative name adopted pursuant to section 1405 of this title;</p> <p>(2) the name of the state or other jurisdiction under whose law the foreign enterprise is organized;</p> <p>(3) the street address and, if different, mailing address of the principal office and, if the law of the jurisdiction under which the foreign enterprise is organized requires the foreign enterprise to maintain another office in that jurisdiction, the street address and, if different, mailing address of the required office;</p> <p>(4) the street address and, if different, mailing address of the foreign enterprise’s designated office in this State, and the name of the foreign enterprise’s agent for service of process at the designated office; and</p> <p>(5) the name, street address and, if different, mailing address of each of the foreign enterprise’s current directors and officers, <u>and of any other principal the enterprise provides.</u></p> <p>(b) A foreign enterprise shall deliver with a completed application under subsection (a) of this section a certificate of good standing or existence or a similar record signed by the Secretary of State or other official having custody of the foreign enterprise’s publicly filed records in the state or other jurisdiction under whose law the foreign enterprise is organized.</p> <p>(c) A foreign enterprise may not transact business in this State without a certificate of authority.</p>	<p>Harmonize initial filing provisions re: principal information</p>
<p>Service of Process – 12 V.S.A. Chapter 25, Subchapter 6</p>			
25	12 V.S.A. Chapter 25, Subchapter 6	<p>Subchapter 6: Foreign Corporations <u>Business Organizations</u></p>	<p>Heading change for business service of process provisions</p>
25	12 V.S.A. § 851	<p>§ 851. Service on Secretary of State When a foreign corporation has appointed the Secretary of State as its process agent pursuant to the statutes relating to such corporations, service of process made upon the Secretary by delivering to him or her duplicate copies thereof, shall be sufficient. A copy of the stipulation, filed under the relevant provisions of 11 V.S.A. § 3011, 11A V.S.A. § 15.10, and 11B V.S.A. § 15.10 of law, certified by the Secretary, with his or her certificate that process has been served on him or her, shall be sufficient evidence thereof.</p> <p><u>A business organization is subject to the service of process provisions in 11 V.S.A. § 1656.</u></p>	<p>Harmonize service of process provisions</p>

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
25	12 V.S.A. § 852	<p>§ 852. Fees; mailing of copy to corporation <u>business organization</u> When process is served on the Secretary of State under the provisions of section 851 of this title 11 V.S.A. § 1656, there shall be paid to the Secretary by the officer at the time of such service the sum of \$35.00 amount specified in 11 V.S.A. § 1651. The Secretary shall forthwith forward by mail prepaid one of the duplicate copies to the corporation at its home office or to a person whom it designates.</p>	Harmonize service of process provisions
25	12 V.S.A. § 853	<p>§ 853. Doing business by particular companies without designating process agent; penalty A person or agent for a foreign insurance, express, shipping car, telephone or telegraph company, or other foreign company doing like business, which has not designated the Secretary of State as its process agent, as required by 11 V.S.A. § 692 who solicits or receives a risk or application for insurance, or receives money or value for such insurance by such company, or receives money or value for the transportation of a package or property by such express or shipping car company, or for the transmission of a message or dispatch by such telegraph company, or receives money, rent, royalty, or income for such telephone company for the use of its instruments or lines or for the sending of any message, shall be fined not more than \$500.00 nor less than \$100.00.</p>	Harmonize service of process provisions
25	12 V.S.A. § 855	<p>§ 855. Doing business as appointment of process agent If the contact with the State or the activity in the state of a foreign corporation <u>business organization</u>, or the contact or activity imputable to it, is sufficient to support a Vermont personal judgment against it, the contact or activity shall be deemed to be doing business in Vermont by that foreign corporation <u>organization</u> and shall be equivalent to the appointment by it of the Secretary of the State of Vermont and his or her successors to be its true and lawful attorney upon whom may be served all lawful process in any action or proceedings against it arising or growing out of that contact or activity, and also shall be deemed to be its agreement that any process against it which is so served upon the Secretary of State shall be of the same legal force and effect as if served on the foreign corporation at its principal place of business in the state or country where it is incorporated according to the law of that state or country.</p>	Harmonize service of process provisions
25	12 V.S.A. § 856	<p>§ 856. Service of process Service of process by virtue of section 855 of this title shall be made <u>pursuant to 11 V.S.A. § 1656</u> by delivering to the Secretary of State duplicate copies of the process, with the officer's return of service thereon, and a fee of \$25.00, to be taxed in the plaintiff's costs if he or she prevails. The Secretary shall forthwith forward one of the duplicate copies by registered mail prepaid to the corporation at its principal place of business in the state or country where it is incorporated, which principal place of business shall be stated in the process. The service shall be sufficient if a copy of the process, with the officer's return thereon showing the service upon the Secretary of State, is sent by the plaintiff to the foreign</p>	Harmonize service of process provisions

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
		<p>corporation by registered mail, and if the plaintiff's affidavit of compliance herewith is filed with the process in court. The Secretary shall file one of the copies and endorse upon each copy the day and hour of service.</p>	
25	12 V.S.A. § 857	<p>§ 857. Continuance; costs The court in which the action is pending may order such continuances as may be necessary to afford the defendant reasonable opportunity to appear and defend. The fee provided in section 856 of this title shall be taxed in the plaintiff's costs if he or she prevails.</p>	Harmonize service of process provisions
25	12 V.S.A. § 858	<p>§ 858. Alternative means of service As an alternative to service of process under this subchapter or when a stipulation appointing the Secretary of State as process agent is not filed with the Commissioner of Foreign Corporations, process may be served upon a foreign corporation in accordance with sections 912 and 913 of this title or by any method that the Supreme Court shall by rule provide for service upon a domestic corporation.</p>	Harmonize service of process provisions
Utility Cooperatives – 30 V.S.A. Chapter 81			
26	30 V.S.A. chapter 81	Chapter 81: Electric Utility Cooperatives	Reflect suggested name change
26	30 V.S.A. § 3001a	<p>§ 3001a. Purpose Cooperatives- A cooperative may be organized under this chapter for the purpose of creating or supplying energy, cable television, telecommunications, interactive media, and internet access and facilitating and extending the use thereof, and in addition, any other lawful business not inconsistent with this chapter that utilizes the electric distribution facilities of the cooperative.</p>	Use singular (section is included here to demonstrate scope of chapter and cause for suggested change from “electric cooperative” to “utility cooperative” and allowing use of “utility” in name of cooperative.)
26	30 V.S.A. § 3002	<p>§ 3002. Powers A cooperative shall have power: (1) To sue and be sued in its corporate name. (2) To have perpetual existence. (3) To adopt a corporate seal and alter the same. (4) To generate, manufacture, purchase, acquire, accumulate, and transmit electric energy; and to distribute, sell, supply, and dispose of energy, cable television, telecommunications, interactive media, and internet access to its members, to governmental agencies, and to political subdivisions; provided, however, that in the generation of electric energy by water power, a cooperative shall comply with the provisions of 10 V.S.A. §§ 1081–1099, relating to the construction and</p>	Technical correction; serial comma (section is included here to demonstrate scope of chapter and cause for suggested change from “electric cooperative” to “utility cooperative” and allowing use of “utility” in name of cooperative.)

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
		maintenance of dams and, provided further, that a cooperative doing any activity governed by this title shall be regulated for that activity. ***	
26	30 V.S.A. § 3003	<p>§ 3003. Name The name of a cooperative governed by this chapter shall include the words “utility” or “energy” or a word designating any specific form of energy such as “electric,” “propane,” or “natural gas” and “cooperative” and the abbreviation “inc.” unless, in an affidavit made by its president or vice president and filed with the Secretary of State, or in an affidavit made by a person signing articles of incorporation, consolidation, merger, or conversion, which relate to the cooperative and filed, together with the articles, with the Secretary of State, it shall appear that the cooperative desires to do business in another state and is or would be precluded by reason of the inclusion of the words in its name. The name of a cooperative shall be distinct from the name of any other cooperative or corporation organized under the laws of, or authorized to do business in, this State.</p>	Reflect suggested name change
26	30 V.S.A. § 3037	<p>§ 3037. Foreign companies; service of process A foreign nonprofit or cooperative corporation supplying or authorized to supply electric energy and owning or operating electric transmission or distribution lines in an adjacent state, prior to March 26, 1943, may construct or acquire extensions of lines in this State within an area no point of which is more than 25 miles from the boundary line of this State and may operate those extensions without qualifying as a foreign corporation to do business in this State. Before constructing or operating such extensions, by an instrument executed and acknowledged on its behalf by its president or vice president, under its seal attested by its clerk or secretary, and filed with the Secretary of State, a corporation shall designate the Secretary of State its agent to accept service of process on its behalf. Thereafter, the corporation shall have all the rights, powers, privileges, and immunities of a cooperative. Service of process shall be made upon the Secretary of State in accordance with the provisions of 12 V.S.A. §§ 851 and 852 and shall forward one copy of the same by registered mail to such corporation at the address of its principal office 11 V.S.A. § 1656.</p>	Harmonize service of process provisions
27	Session law study provision	<p><u>Sec. 27. BUSINESS SERVICES AND BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS; STUDY</u> (a) <u>Task. The Secretary of State shall conduct a public engagement process with interested partners to study, consider, and address the following issues:</u> (1) <u>technical, procedural, and substantive issues concerning the online business filing system;</u> (2) <u>statutory revisions to:</u> (A) <u>adopt provisions of the Uniform Business Organizations Code or other provisions to further harmonize the laws governing business organizations in this State, including provisions governing commercial registered agents and updates to the Titles of the Vermont Statutes Annotated related to business organizations;</u></p>	New study and report

Section (Change)	Citation	Text	Notes
		<p><u>(B) the laws governing trademarks and possible expansion to include service marks;</u> <u>(C) the dual framework governing partnerships in 11 V.S.A. chapter 15 and 22 and the mandatory registration of assumed business names and unincorporated nonprofit associations; and</u> <u>(D) the fees collected for various business organization filings;</u> <u>(3) assessment of the need for any updates to current model laws or the addition of new model legislation; and</u> <u>(4) assessment of the administrative oversight authority and substantive provisions governing data brokers, telemarketers, utility cooperatives, and amusement ride operators.</u></p> <p><u>(b) Reporting. The Secretary of State shall, based on the task set forth in subsection (a) of this section, submit to the House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development and to the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs, an interim report on or before November 15, 2025 and a final report on or before December 1, 2026 including its findings and any proposed legislation for the General Assembly’s consideration. The interim report shall provide the General Assembly with any recommended actions to pursue in the 2026 legislative session.</u></p>	