

Differences between Senate and House version of S.239

House added new subsection (a) for findings.

House added last sentence in subsection (b).

House changed membership of working group in subsection (c):

- Removed OPR and Judiciary
- Moved AGO to consult with group
- Reduced DCF representation from two to one member
- Added two members with lived experience; Director of the Vermont Parent Child Center Network; certified law enforcement officer who has served on a special investigative unit, appointed by the Vermont Law Enforcement Advisory Board; a physician co-chair of the Vermont Citizen’s Advisory Board; a principal, appointed by the Vermont Principals’ Association; a representative of a designated agency that works in children’s mental health, appointed by Vermont Care Partners; and the Vermont Office of Racial Equity.

House changed the list of stakeholders to be consulted in subsection (d):

- Added the Juvenile Division of the Office of the Defender General; the Office of the Attorney General; the Vermont School Counselor’s Association; and the Agency of Education.

House extended the reporting time for the final report from January 15, 2027 to October 1, 2027 and added an “interim presentation” requirement for no later than April 1, 2027 in subsection (e).

In subsection (f), the House added additional requirements for the study in subdivisions (1) and (2).

In subsection (g), the House added per diem and expenses language because it shifted the two individuals with lived experience from the stakeholder group to the working group (subdivision (3)) and required DCF to post information about the working group on its website (subdivision (4)). The House removed the provision setting forth the number of members that constitute a quorum.