

No. 156. An act relating to the State House art collections.

(S.173)

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

* * * Legislative Advisory Committee on the State House * * *

Sec. 1. 2 V.S.A. chapter 19 is amended to read:

CHAPTER 19. LEGISLATIVE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE
STATE HOUSE

§ 651. LEGISLATIVE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE STATE
HOUSE

(a) The Legislative Advisory Committee on the State House is created.

(b) The Committee shall be composed of ~~13~~ 12 members:

(1) ~~four~~ three members of the House of Representatives, appointed biennially by the Speaker of the House;

(2) ~~four~~ three members of the Senate, appointed biennially by the Committee on Committees;

(3) the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Friends of the Vermont State House;

(4) the Director of the Vermont Historical Society;

(5) the Director of the Vermont ~~Council on the Arts~~ Council;

(6) the Commissioner of Buildings and General Services or designee;

~~and~~

(7) the Sergeant at Arms; and

(8) the State Curator.

(c) The Committee shall biennially elect a chair from among its legislative members. A quorum shall consist of seven members.

(d) The Committee shall meet ~~at the State House~~ at least one time when the General Assembly is in session ~~and at least one time when~~. When the General Assembly is not in session or at the call of the Chair, the Committee shall meet at least one time, but the Committee and any subcommittees shall not cumulatively meet more than six times per year; provided, however, that the Committee and any subcommittees of the Committee may meet more often with the approval of the Speaker of the House and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate. The Commissioner of Buildings and General Services shall keep minutes of the meetings and maintain a file thereof.

(e) The Committee shall have the assistance of the Office of Legislative Counsel and the Office of Legislative Operations.

(f) A member of the Committee shall not vote on a matter under consideration by the Committee regarding any activities or duties the member is responsible for discharging.

§ 652. PER DIEM AND EXPENSES; LEGISLATIVE MEMBERS

For meetings held during adjournment of the General Assembly, the legislative members of the Committee shall be entitled to per diem compensation and expense reimbursement as provided in ~~subsection 406(a)~~ section 23 of this title.

§ 653. FUNCTIONS

(a)(1) ~~The Legislative Advisory Committee on the State House shall be consulted on:~~

(1) review, coordinate, and make recommendations on all activities relating to the ~~acquisition~~ collections and care of ~~paintings and art~~, historic artifacts, and furnishings, and the refurbishing, renovation, preservation, and expansion of the building and its interior; and

(2) ~~The Legislative Advisory Committee on the State House shall develop~~ approve a plan for the acquisition or commission of artwork collections policy for the State House collection ~~that represents Vermont's diverse people and history, including diversity of gender, race, ethnicity, sexuality, and disability status,~~ as developed by the State Curator pursuant to 29 V.S.A. § 154a(c).

(b) The Sergeant at Arms and the Commissioner of Buildings and General Services, in discharging responsibilities under subdivision 62(a)(6) of this title and 29 V.S.A. §§ 154(a) and 154a, respectively, shall consider the recommendations of the Committee. ~~The Committee's recommendations shall be advisory only.~~

Sec. 2. LEGISLATIVE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE STATE
HOUSE; ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES; STUDY

The Legislative Advisory Committee on the State House shall review the roles and responsibilities of the State Curator, the Sergeant at Arms, and the

Friends of the Vermont State House. On or before December 15, 2022, the Committee shall submit to the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions and the Senate Committee on Institutions recommendations for legislative action, if any, to clarify these roles and responsibilities.

* * * Sergeant at Arms * * *

Sec. 3. 2 V.S.A. § 62 is amended to read:

§ 62. LEGISLATIVE DUTIES

(a) The Sergeant at Arms shall:

(1) execute orders of either house, the Joint Legislative Management Committee, the Committee on Joint Rules, or the House or Senate Committee on Rules;

(2) maintain order among spectators and take measures to prevent interruption of either house or any committee thereof;

(3) arrange for special meetings and conferences at the State House;

(4) provide for the distribution of mail to all legislators;

(5) schedule the time for the use of rooms for committee meetings and hearings;

(6) maintain the State House and its furnishings in a good state of repair and provide security for all furniture, draperies, rugs, desks, and other furnishings kept in the State House in consultation with the State Curator;

(7) provide for the establishment of a cafeteria and supervise its operation;

(8) provide security for the State House, pursuant to the responsibilities set forth in 29 V.S.A. § 171; and

(9) perform such other duties for the benefit of the legislators as may be required by any duly authorized committee thereof.

(b) ~~He or she~~ The Sergeant at Arms or any person ~~in his or her employ~~ employed by the Sergeant at Arms shall not accept any compensation or gift for ~~his or her~~ the services of the Sergeant at Arms or any of the employee's services other than ~~his or her~~ the Sergeant at Arms' or the employee's salary, respectively. ~~If he or she or any~~ Any person in his or her employ who violates this provision, ~~he or she~~ shall be fined \$25.00.

(c) The Sergeant at Arms shall not be responsible for:

(1) structural repairs; or capital improvements; to the ~~or~~ State House building;

(2) the maintenance for of the State House building ~~(as the term maintenance is defined in 29 V.S.A. § 159);~~

(3) curating the historic State House and its collections; or for

(4) the use, upkeep, or maintenance of the State House grounds.

(d) The Sergeant at Arms and employees of the Sergeant at Arms shall seek guidance from and operate in accordance with policies adopted by the Joint Legislative Management Committee.

* * * State Curator * * *

Sec. 4. 29 V.S.A. § 154a is amended to read:

§ 154a. STATE CURATOR

(a) Creation. The position of State Curator is created within the Department of Buildings and General Services.

(b) Duties. The State Curator's responsibilities shall include:

(1) oversight of the ~~general historic preservation of the State House, including maintaining the historical integrity of the State House and works of art in the State House;~~

(2) interpretation of the State House to the visiting public through exhibits, publications, ~~and tours, and other means of communication; and~~

(3) acquisition, management, and care of State collections of art ~~and~~ historic artifacts, and furnishings, provided that ~~any works of art~~ all items obtained for the State House are acquired pursuant to the ~~requirements of 2 V.S.A. § 653(a) collections policy adopted pursuant to subsection (c) of this section; and~~

(4) oversight and management of the State's historic and contemporary art and collections in other State buildings and on State property.

(c) ~~Acquisition~~ Collections policy. ~~In coordination with the Legislative Advisory Committee on the State House, and in accordance with the plan developed pursuant to 2 V.S.A. § 653, the~~ The State Curator shall ~~adopt an acquisition~~ develop a collections policy, in coordination with experts, that

ensures that the acquisition of art, historic artifacts, and furnishings, and the commissioning of art and furnishings, for the State House reflects Vermont's diverse people and history, including a diversity of race, ethnicity, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, and disability status, and a diversity of artistic media and artists; and celebrates the natural history of the State; and the diversity of the people and stories of Vermont throughout the history of the State. Upon approval of the Legislative Advisory Committee on the State House pursuant to 2 V.S.A. § 653, the State Curator shall adopt the collections policy.

(d) Interpretive plan. In coordination with the Friends of the Vermont State House and the Vermont Historical Society, the State Curator shall create an interpretive plan that tells the stories of the State House art collection through accessible written, multimedia, and oral means. The plan shall include appropriate and inclusive training of State House volunteers and staff.

* * * Effective Dates * * *

Sec. 5. EFFECTIVE DATES

This act shall take effect on passage, except that all members of the General Assembly serving on the Legislative Advisory Committee on the State House as of the date of enactment of this act shall remain on the Committee through the end of the 2021–2022 biennium.

Date Governor signed bill: May 31, 2022