

NEW SENATE BILLS:

Judicial/Crime:

- [S.171](#), sponsored by Sears, would clarify that, for purposes of sentence calculation, credit toward service of a sentence for any days spent in custody shall include only time spent in a correctional facility. **Scheduled for walk through on January 8 in Senate Judiciary.**
- [S.177](#), sponsored by Sears and White, would allow commanding officers in the state National Guard to impose non-judicial discipline.
- [S.178](#), sponsored by Collins, would prohibit the possession of firearms and other dangerous or deadly weapons on any school property.
- [S.180](#), sponsored by Sears, would establish the crime of criminal threatening.
- [S.216](#), sponsored by Sears, would enhance penalties for possession of a weapon or use of force or threat in commission of a burglary. **Scheduled for a walk through in the Senate Judiciary Committee on January 8 and a hearing on January 9.**
- [S.270](#), sponsored by Sears, would provide for gubernatorial appointment of AG.
- [S.285](#), sponsored by Sears, would extend furlough automatically to an offender who is 65 or older and has served minimum sentence. **Scheduled for walk through on January 8 in Senate Judiciary.**
- [S.286](#), sponsored by Sears, proposes additional penalties for assault on corrections officer.
- [S.295](#), sponsored by Sears, Ashe, Flory, Fox, Snelling, relates to pretrial services, risk assessments, and criminal justice programs. **Scheduled for a walk through in the Senate Judiciary Committee on January 8 and a hearing on January 9 and 10.**
- [S.296](#), sponsored by Sears, Ashe, Flory, Fox, Snelling, would clarify defender general's duty to investigate issues related to the health, safety, and welfare of inmates in correctional facilities.
- [S.308](#), sponsored by Baruth, Collins, Nitka, relates to regulating precious metal dealers.

Human Services:

- [S.179](#), sponsored by Sears and Ayer, would disqualify Reach UP participants who are completing a sentence for certain drug-related felonies if participant is not in compliance with parole or probation conditions.
- [S.197](#), sponsored by Pollina, Fox, would require DCF to renegotiate its 3SquaresVT Claims plan with feds to assume responsibility for the payment of claims resulting from agency error.
- [S.271](#), sponsored by Fox, relates to the reorganization of DAIL and DMH.
- [S.300](#), sponsored by McAllister, would require drug testing for public assistance recipients and treatment for those who test positive.
- [S.307](#), sponsored by Flory would require Vermont Health Access Commissioner to contract with independent consultant to reduce the benefit cliffs imposed by Vermont's public benefit structure.

Miscellaneous:

- [S.172](#), sponsored by Benning, Rodgers, Starr, McCormack, would provide that those 21 and older would not be required to wear a helmet if he or she is properly maintaining financial responsibility and has taken a safety course or has a valid motorcycle endorsement.
- [S.204](#), sponsored by Pollina, Ayer, French, McCormack, White and Zuckerman, would create 10 percent for Vermont program that would establish a state banking system under VEDA.
- [S.205](#), sponsored by Hartwell, would impose a fee for plastic carry out bags.
- [S.212](#), sponsored by Baruth, MacDonald, and McCormack, would prohibit handheld use of portable electronic device while driving.
- [S.260](#), sponsored by Flory, would allow malt and vinous beverage tastings before license. [S. 53](#), [S. 181](#), [S.226](#), also relate to booze.
- [S.289](#), sponsored by French would impose a cause of action against a manufacture of GMO seeds if the seed enters the property of a farmer and causes damages.
- [S.290](#), sponsored by Hartwell, would extend VT Strong license plate display.
- [S.306](#), sponsored by Zuckerman, would regulate and tax marijuana.
- [S.311](#), sponsored by Hartwell aims to increase economic development and prosperity.
- [S.315](#), sponsored by Ashe, Bray, Fox, Lyons, McCormack, Zuckerman, would decriminalize the performance of abortions and recognize right to abortion.

Employment:

- [S.213](#), sponsored by Baruth, would prohibit employers from penalizing employees who use sick leave or any other benefits.
- [S.255](#), sponsored by Fox, Ayer, Baruth, Cummings, French, Lyons, McCormack, Pollina, White, and Zuckerman, would give employees a minimum number of paid hours annually to take for health and safety needs and those of their families.
- [S.266](#), sponsored by MacDonald and McCormack relates to workers' compensation wages.
- [S.268](#), sponsored by Ayer would prohibit noncompete agreements in employment contracts.
- [S.278](#), sponsored by Zuckerman and Pollina, would establish a livable wage for employees of VSC and UVM.
- [S.301](#), sponsored by Galbraith, Ashe, Ayer, Baruth, Cummings, Fox, McCormack, White, would raise the minimum wage to \$12 per hour.

Ethics/Accountability:

- [S.189](#), sponsored by White would make many changes to the Open Meetings Law, including allowing citizens to participate in a meeting remotely.
- [S.199](#), sponsored by White, would amend laws relating to lobbyists.

- [S.200](#), sponsored by White, would prohibit legislators from acting as lobbyists for one year. Also would prohibit public officials or appointees from accepting employment from a person who is regulated by the public body to which the official was elected or appointed.
- [S.217](#), sponsored by Baruth, Benning, MacDonald, McCormack, Mullin, Pollina, Starr would amend public meeting laws regarding minutes.
- [S.243](#), sponsored by Galbraith, relates to limiting campaign contributions of businesses and partnerships.

Healthcare:

- [S.173](#), sponsored by Senator Benning, would enable individuals and small groups to purchase health insurance outside of Vermont Health Benefit Exchange through December 31, 2014.
- [S.183](#), sponsored by Ayer and Sears would require a prescription for the purchase of precursors to meth that contain ephedrine, pseudoephedrine or phenylpropanolamine.
- [S.234](#), sponsored by Mullin, Ashe relates to Medicaid coverage for telemonitoring.
- [S.247](#), sponsored by White, would eliminate cap on patients per dispensary, and make other changes to medical marijuana laws.
- [S.252](#), sponsored by Galbraith, relates to financing for Green Mountain Care.
- [S.254](#), by Galbraith, relates to transitional financing of Green Mountain Care.
- [S.269](#), sponsored by Kitchel and Lyons would enhance requirements for a business to be notified of a possible data security breach and be informed of legal duties.
- [S.280](#), would prohibit out of state narcotics prescriptions from being filled outside of NY and New England.
- [S.287](#), sponsored by Ayer, Sears, White, expedited treatment.
- [S.309](#), sponsored by Snelling, expedited treatment.

Education:

- [S.187](#), sponsored by Collins, would revise the regional CTE centers funding mechanism so that a sending district would pay a percentage of the CTE budget based on that district's own long-term membership for grades 9-12 rather than pay an assessment for each student enrolled in the CTE center.
- [S.192](#), sponsored by Pollina, would create a task force to develop a detailed plan to create and implement a Vermont Pay it Forward, Pay it Back College Affordability Program where Vermont students pledge to pay a certain percentage of future earnings for a specified number of years upon graduation. (Oregon already enacted, CSG recommended).
- [S.253](#), sponsored by Nitka, would gradually increase the mandatory age of school attendance.
- [S.259](#), sponsored by Sears, would allow school boards to adjust budgets if base ed amount is raised between the voting of the budget and the certification of budgets by AOE.

- [S.294](#), sponsored by White would require the secretary to annually collect and publish data concerning course offerings at public schools including costs associated with offering courses.
- [S.304](#), sponsored by Collins, would allow principals to correct deficient areas if nonrenewal of contract is based on performance deficiencies.

Land Use/Enviro:

- [S.207](#), sponsored by Hartwell would change Act 250 to promote alternative transportation.
- [S.214](#), sponsored by Snelling, would increase the integration of municipal and regional land use planning with the designation of downtowns, village centers and growth centers.
- [S.215](#), sponsored by Snelling, would require ANR to submit specific recommendations for administering, implementing, and financing water quality improvement.
- [S.224](#), sponsored by Snelling, would require Act 250 permit for shoreland development.
- [S.229](#), sponsored by Rodgers, would exempt certain solid waste transporters from the recycling mandate.
- [S.231](#), sponsored by Rodgers, would amend posting requirements so that a property owner registers land as posted once, instead of annually.
- [S.239](#), sponsored by Lyons, Mullin, Ashe, Pollina, and would require a list of toxic chemicals.
- [S.288](#), sponsored by Lyons, would establish a Clean Water Legacy Fund and working group on water quality funding.
- [S.312](#), sponsored by Lyons, and Mullin relates to extended producer responsibility/product stewardship.

Tax:

- [S.221](#), sponsored by Ashe, would enact language explaining the statutory purpose for each tax expenditure.
- [S.249](#), sponsored by Galbraith, Hartwell, Mullin, would lower education property tax rates for low spending towns by limiting itemized deductions for individuals.
- [S.251](#), sponsored by Nitka, would allow taxpayers 65 and older to defer property taxes until death.
- [S.313](#), sponsored by Zuckerman would create a tax credit for donations made to socially responsible small farms.

PSD related:

- [S. 191](#), Sponsored by Sen. Kevin Mullin, R-Rutland, provides setbacks and screening criteria specifically for solar generation projects.
- [S.196](#), sponsored by Sen. John Rodgers, D-Orleans, would remove the current caps on net-metering systems and require customers to pay a fixed monthly charge. From PSD: while perhaps well-intentioned, is not workable and contrary to what PSD plans to propose.

- [S. 198](#), Senator Rodgers, requires PSB to mandate, retroactively and in future, radar-controlled obstruction lights on all wind turbines for which FAA requires such lights, to reduce “light pollution.”
- [S. 201](#), sponsored by Sen. Bob Hartwell, D-Bennington, would implement a modified version of portions of the siting commission report, and provide for a “friend of the Board” category of participation on PSB.
- [S. 202](#), sponsored by Senator Hartwell, would dedicate all revenues from EVT efficiency charge above \$45 million to thermal efficiency. While thermal remains a priority, the PSB sets electric budget based on electric needs and this funding mechanism would be arbitrary and inconsistent with current efficiency mandate.
- [S. 203](#), sponsored by Hartwell, would create an Energy Siting Counsel at AG’s Office, and takes two positions from PSD to staff the office. This counsel would have independent standing to represent residents and towns affected by projects sited nearby, in PSB process.
- [S. 206](#), sponsored by Hartwell, would create funding for intervenor parties in PSB process, an independent Ratepayer Advocate overseen by legislative joint committees, and provides the Commissioner of PSD may only be removed from office for cause.
- [S. 238](#), sponsored by Sen. Chris Bray, D-Addison and Sen. Ginny Lyons, D-Chittenden, would create alternative property tax for natural gas infrastructure, with funds dedicated to Clean Energy Development Fund.
- [S. 257](#), sponsored by Sen. Dick Sears, D-Bennington, would make low-income assistance charges on electric or gas bills voluntary and tax deductible and prohibits PSB from mandating them.
- [S. 292](#), sponsored by Hartwell, this bill, clearly aimed at wind, would require PSB siting review process to have energy projects demonstrate that will not result in a net increase in GHG emissions. It also specifies that they must demonstrate projects will minimize curtailment and have adequate transmission, and that they will comply with any Act 250 permit if they are sited on land subject to the permit.
- [S. 302](#), sponsored by Sen. Norm McAllister, R-Franklin, allows PSB to waive efficiency charge for industrial customers that have implemented all cost-effective efficiency at their Vermont plant site.
- [S. 310](#), Hartwell, provides that any MOU between Entergy and PSD regarding release of escrow funds to CEDF dedicate half of transferred funds to local or regional economic development authorities to assist towns adversely affected by VY closure.

NEW HOUSE BILLS:

- [H.546](#), sponsored by Turner, would enable individuals and small groups to purchase health insurance outside Health Benefit Exchange through December 31, 2014. Similar to S.173.
- [H.547](#), sponsored by Consejo, Beyor, Christie, Cole, etc., would create two new criminal offenses, bullying and aggravated bullying.
- [H.549](#), sponsored by Poirier, would raise the amount of cost-sharing subsidies available to individuals and families with income between 200 and 300 percent of the poverty level.

- [H.552](#), sponsored by Poirier, Cross, Davis, Krowinski, Moran, Pearson, would raise minimum wage to \$12.50 per hour.

CARRY-OVER PRIORITIES/MOVING:

Conference:

- [H.39](#), sponsored by Botzow and Marcotte, is pending in conference committee (Botzow, Marcotte, MacDonald, Lyons and Snelling), and relates to PSB and PSD.
- [H.528](#), sponsored by Griffen, is pending in conference committee (Ashe, MacDonald, Mullin, Ancel, Condon, and Wilson), and would make revenue changes.
- [S.129](#), sponsored by Sears, Baruth, Doyle, Galbraith, MacDonald, White, is pending in conference committee (Marcotte, Botzow, Young, Ashe, Campbell, and Zuckerman), and relates to workers compensation liens.
- [S.41](#), sponsored by Pollina, et al, pending in conference (Ayer, French, Benning, Hubert, Martin, Mook), and relates to water and sewer service and delinquent payments.

Scheduled for hearing:

- [S.82](#), sponsored by White et al, is pending in conference committee (Evans, Martin, Consejo, White, French, Westman), and relates to campaign finance. [S.82 is scheduled for conference on January 7 at 9 a.m. in Room 49.](#)

Moving But Not Yet Passed Both Houses:

- [H.112](#), sponsored by Webb and many others, passed the House 99-42 on May 10 and is pending committee referral in the Senate. GMO labeling.
- [S.128](#), sponsored by Ayer, passed the Senate on March 27, was referred to House Health Care on March 29, and was re-referred to House Human Services on April 5. Updating mental health judicial proceedings.
- [H.57](#), sponsored by Cross, is pending in the Senate Finance Committee, and relates to self-employment assistance.
- [S.19](#), sponsored by Sears, is pending in the House Judiciary Committee and would prohibit intentionally accessing child pornography through the internet.
- [H.14](#), sponsored by Hubert, Devereaux, Higley, Winters, and is pending in the Senate Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs Committee. Law enforcement authority of liquor control investigators.
- [S.70](#), sponsored by Rodgers, passed the Senate on March 20 and is pending in the House Agriculture and Forest Products Committee. It relates to raw milk at farmers markets.
- [S.58](#), sponsored by Lyons and multiple Senators, passed the Senate on March 27 and is pending in the House Fish, Wildlife, and Water Resources Committee. Relates to ACT 250 and oil pipelines.
- [S.40](#), sponsored by Pollina, etc, passed the Senate on March 29, and is pending in House Education. Interim committee to develop policies to restore 1980 ratio of state funding to student tuition at VSC; higher ed more affordable.

- [H.329](#), sponsored by Clarkson, passed the House on March 29 and is pending in Senate Ag. Current Use.
- [S.27](#), sponsored by Pollina, passed the Senate on March 29 and is pending in House Gov Ops. It relates to respectful language in statute.
- [S.154](#), sponsored by Senate Judiciary, passed the Senate on March 29, and is pending in House Judiciary. Classification of criminal offenses.
- [H.297](#), sponsored by Botzow, et al, passed the House on April 5, is pending in Senate Rules and relates to duties of DPS.
- [H.514](#), sponsored by House Ag and Forest Products, passed the House on April 9 and is pending in the Senate Finance Committee. It relates to the tax liability of certain ag workers and employees.
- [S.86](#), sponsored by White, passed the Senate on April 11 and is pending in the House Gov Ops Committee. Misc changes to election laws.
- [H.543](#), sponsored by House Gov Ops, passed the House on May 8 and is pending in Senate Rules. Auditor of Accounts.
- [H.198](#), sponsored by Kitzmiller et al, passed the House on April 11 and is pending in Senate Finance. LIMA.
- [H.60](#), sponsored by Donovan et al, passed the House on March 29, the Senate Education Committee on April 18, and is pending in Senate Appropriations. School lunches.
- [S.26](#), sponsored by Fox, et al, passed the Senate on March 28, now in House Education. School lunches.
- [H.526](#), sponsored by House Fish, Wildlife and Water Resources, passed the House on March 28 and is now in the Senate Natural Resources and Energy Committee. Shoreland protection.

Scheduled for hearings:

- [S.25](#), sponsored by Hartwell, passed the Senate on March 1 and is pending in the House Commerce and Economic Development Committee. **Scheduled for committee passage with amendment on January 7**. Public advocacy in utility matters.
- [H.524](#), sponsored by House Ed, is scheduled for Senate floor amendments on January 7 and relates to misc changes to education statutes.
- [S.55](#), sponsored by Pollina et al, is scheduled for a Senate Second reading on January 7, and would create a finance and lending efficiency task force to evaluate the costs and benefits of consolidating into one entire state finance and lending operations, investing, grant-making, and banking.
- [S.165](#), sponsored by the Senate Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs Committee, is scheduled for a Senate third reading on January 7 and relates to collective bargaining for deputy state's attorneys.
- [H.270](#), sponsored by Buxton, Christie, Cross, Donovan, Peltz, is pending in the Senate Appropriations Committee. Pre-K. Senate Appropriations is doing an education finance overview in preparation for H.270. On Tuesday the 7th at 1:30, Mary, Mark Perrault, Brad James, and Bill Talbott will be giving an overview of the system including how it works, how estimates are built, and how the money flows. After them (3:30) is Donna Rousseau-Savage (leg council), as well as Senators Ashe and McCormick to talk about

the bill which has passed the House and both of their committees. On Wednesday the 8th, VLCT, DCF, and AoE are likely to testify. On Thursday the 9th, they will likely wrap up testimony and begin prep for amendments.

- [H.356](#), sponsored by Townsend and Deen, was introduced on February 22 and is scheduled for hearings in the House Committee on Fish, Wildlife, and Water Resources Committee on January 7.
- [H.394](#), sponsored by Deen, was introduced on February 26 and is scheduled for a hearing in the House Fish, Wildlife, and Water Resources Committee on January 8. It would authorize the secretary of natural resources to make site-specific resource determinations.
- [H.88](#), was introduced on January 25 and is scheduled for a hearing on January 7 in the House Judiciary Committee. It relates to parental rights and responsibilities involving a child conceived as a result of a sexual assault.
- [S.119](#), sponsored by Waite-Simpson, passed the Senate on April 24 and is scheduled for a hearing in the House Judiciary Committee on January 9. It relates to amending perpetual conservation easements.
- [H.164](#), sponsored by Condon, was introduced on February 5 and is scheduled for a hearing in the House Ways and Means Committee on January 10. It relates to the simplification of the statewide education property tax by reducing the property component of the tax and adding an income-based education tax.