

1 H.464

2 Introduced by Representatives O'Brien of Richmond, Burke of Brattleboro,
3 Cole of Burlington, Krowinski of Burlington, and Mrowicki of
4 Putney

5 Referred to Committee on

6 Date:

7 Subject: Boards and commissions; appointments; gender equality

8 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require the
9 Governor to consider and prioritize gender equality when making
10 appointments to any board, commission, or similar entity.

11 An act relating to gender equality on State boards, commissions, and similar
12 entities

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

14 Sec. 1. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS

15 The General Assembly finds that:

16 (1) According to the Vermont Commission on Women's 2015 report
17 titled "Women in Leadership and Public Life 2015," in 2013 there were a total
18 of 178 Vermont boards and commissions. Of these, 51 percent had male
19 dominated membership as opposed to 17 percent with female dominated
20 membership.

1 (2) According to the same report, 64 Vermont boards and commissions
2 offered per diems. Of those boards and commissions offering per diems,
3 56 percent had male dominated membership as opposed to 13 percent with
4 female dominated membership.

5 Sec. 2. 3 V.S.A. § 216a is added to read:

6 § 216a. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS; GENDER EQUALITY

7 The Governor shall consider and prioritize the goal of gender equality when
8 making an appointment or reappointment to any board, commission, or similar
9 entity.

10 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

11 This act shall take effect on passage.