



# WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE REPORT

The Vermont League of Cities and Towns' **Weekly Legislative Report** is published each Friday during Vermont's legislative session.

<b>VLCT</b> 89 Main Street, Suite 4 Montpelier, VT 05602-2948  Tel. 802-229-9111 Fax 802-229-2211 Email <a href="mailto:info@vlct.org">info@vlct.org</a> Web <a href="http://www.vlct.org">www.vlct.org</a>	Follow VLCT Advocacy on <a href="#">facebook</a> <a href="#">twitter</a>  <b>Karen Horn</b> , Public Policy and Advocacy Director <b>Gwynn Zakov</b> , Municipal Policy Advocate <b>David Gunn</b> , Editor  To contact your legislators, find their email addresses on the legislative website ( <a href="http://legislature.vermont.gov">http://legislature.vermont.gov</a> ) or call the Sergeant-at-Arms (802-828-2228).
----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Education Funding .....	1	State Revolving Loan Funds: Water/Wastewater .....	4
Clean Water Fund Board .....	2	L.G.D. Policy Briefing Roundtables.....	6
Marijuana Legalization.....	3	New Bills .....	6
Permitting Process Standardization .....	4		

## Education Funding – Allowable Growth Limits

This week, legislators were acutely aware of the looming deadline that local officials face to warn their annual meeting and budgets in time for town meeting, which for most towns will be Tuesday, March 1. According to 17 V.S.A. § 2641, warnings must be posted “not less than 30 ... days before the meeting...” which this year is January 30. Yet, questions only multiplied this week about whether or not the allowable growth percentages established in Act 46 will be amended. It also emerged that the estimates that the Agency of Education provided to school districts about their allowable growth percentages and the penalties they would incur for exceeding those percentages were inaccurate.

On January 20, the Senate passed S.233, a bill that repealed the allowable growth percentages, thereby leaving underlying statute, which states that 100 percent of excess spending (more than \$16,905 per equalized pupil) would be subject to the excess spending penalty. On Wednesday, the House passed its strike-all amendment to S.233, which would (1) increase the allowable growth rate thresholds by 0.9 percentage points (to accommodate expected health insurance and new pre-kindergarten cost increases ) for FY17 only, (2) impose a 25 percent penalty on excess spending instead of the 100 percent penalty in Act 46, (3) direct the Agency of Education to use the threshold calculation that results in the lowest penalty (to address its errors), and (4) leave the law intact for FY18, the second year addressed in Act 46.

The Senate spent most of Thursday afternoon discussing options for further amending S.233. The amendment that finally passed would leave intact the House directive to the Agency of Education to use the threshold calculations that result in the lowest penalty for a school district spending over the allowable growth percentage. In FY17 only, the allowable growth percentage would be increased by 0.9 percentage points. The education property tax spending adjustment and education income tax adjustment would be calculated using 40 percent of the district’s excess spending. In a district in which actual per-equalized pupil education spending in the current fiscal year is *below* the statewide average per equalized pupil education spending, the education property tax spending adjustment and the education income tax spending adjustment would be calculated without any addition for excess spending over the allowable growth percentage, thus protecting low spending districts. The “statewide average per-equalized pupil amount of education spending in fiscal year 2016” would mean the total statewide per-

equalized pupil amount of education spending in 2016 divided by the total number of equalized pupils. The Senate’s amendment would repeal allowable growth percentages for FY18. A link to the amendment is [here](#).

The Senate proposal of amendment, messaged back to the House late Thursday afternoon, is expected to be taken up there today.

Discussions on Wednesday and Thursday felt as frenzied as they do at the end of the session – and it is still only January! Look for lots more activity on many equally complex issues before spring arrives.

—Karen Horn

## Clean Water Fund Board

On Thursday, the House Fish, Wildlife and Water Resources Committee voted out H.518, a bill that would require appointment of members of the public, including two municipal representatives, to the Clean Water Fund Board that it had been discussing over the last few weeks. Last session, Act 64, the Vermont Water Quality bill, created the Clean Water Fund Board, whose members include the secretaries of Administration, Commerce and Community Development, Natural Resources, Transportation, and Agriculture, Food and Markets. Their function is to recommend expenditures from the Clean Water Fund, which in its first two years is financed by an increase in the property transfer tax.

The Clean Water Fund Board had an estimated \$10,400,000 to recommend for allocations over the course of FY16 and FY17 for the Clean Water Fund. The board made its recommendations to the Secretary of Administration for inclusion in the governor’s budget proposal. Among a list of nine priorities for the first three years of the Clean Water Fund, the Board was directed to “award or assist municipalities in compliance with water quality requirements.” Among their recommendations were:

<b>Agency/Use</b>	<b>State FY16</b>	<b>State FY17</b>	<b>Total</b>
AGRICULTURE	\$675,000	\$2,460,000	\$3,135,000
Municipal Roads/Stormwater	\$0	\$500,000	\$500,000
NATURAL RESOURCES	\$0	\$1,150,000	\$1,150,000
All Sectors LIDAR Maps	\$430,000	\$0	\$430,000
All Sectors Partner Support	\$100,000	\$1,085,000	\$1,185,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,005,000</b>	<b>\$8,395,000</b>	<b>\$10,400,000</b>

VLCT testified in strong support of H.518, saying that the tendency of agencies to use available funds to finance their own projects would likely be overwhelming if the board comprised only agency secretaries. There would always be – as there have been this year – many incontrovertible reasons to fund agency priorities. H.518 would expand the board to include three appointees of the Speaker of the House, one of whom would be a municipal official, and three appointees of the Senate Committee on Committees, one of whom would also be a municipal official.

Urge your representatives to support H.518, the bill that expands the type of Clean Water Fund Board member to include municipal officials.

—Karen Horn

## Marijuana Legalization

It was another lively week in the State House with regard to marijuana legalization. The Senate Judiciary and Government Operations committees discussed a new proposal of amendment to S.241 which was presented to the Senate Judiciary Committee on Tuesday. The new language would allow for adult use and possession of marijuana and would not allow for “residential” or “home-grown” cultivation as originally proposed in the bill. Rather, the Department of Public Safety would be responsible for issuing two types of licenses: one to cultivate marijuana and one to operate a retail marijuana establishment. A total of 10-20 cultivator licenses and 20-40 retailer licenses would be issued prior to July 1, 2018, with increases expected in the number of permits after that date. The Department of Public Safety would be the entity authorized to administer and enforce the provisions of the act. It would regulate the cultivation, processing, packaging, transportation, testing, purchasing, and sale of marijuana, and adopt the rules to implement the new legislation.

The amendment would allow for a person 21 years of age or older to possess one ounce or less of marijuana and remove the current civil penalties in place for such amounts. Consumption in public would be prohibited and municipalities would retain any current authority to adopt a civil ordinance to provide additional penalties for marijuana consumption in a public place. Voters in a municipality could prohibit the operation of a marijuana establishment within a municipality by majority vote at an annual or special meeting. If a municipality voted to prohibit marijuana establishments, the ban would stay in effect until repealed by the voters. A municipality could regulate marijuana establishments through local ordinances or land use bylaws, or require a marijuana establishment to obtain a license or permit from the municipality prior to beginning operations.

There are no reliable estimates of how much the legalization of marijuana would raise. However, revenue generated by the legislation would be allocated in the following manner:

- 25 percent to the prevention of substance abuse;
- 25 percent to the treatment of substance abuse;
- 25 percent to law enforcement and criminal justice agencies for their efforts to combat the illegal drug trade and drugged driving;
- 25 percent to the General Fund for purposes related to this act and other General Fund purposes.

Interestingly, if the allocation of revenues does not change, Vermont would be the only state to legalize marijuana while allocating zero revenue directly to the local governments that will host marijuana establishments. Alaska, Colorado, Oregon and Washington – the four states that have legalized marijuana – have all allocated tax revenue to local governments, and most have local taxes in addition to the taxes assessed at the state level. In Colorado, for example, local governments receive 15 percent of the 10 percent retail marijuana sales tax, and towns and cities may also vote to access a local tax to retail sales. Currently, local taxes range anywhere from 1.5 to 10 percent. In Oregon, ten percent of the state tax on recreational marijuana is transferred to local governments based on their population. Beginning July 1, 2017, tax revenues will be distributed proportionately to all Oregon cities based on the number of licenses issued for premises located in each municipality. Local governments in Oregon may also impose local taxes up to three percent on the processing, production, or sale of recreational marijuana.

Local officials continue to oppose the legalization of marijuana, being specifically concerned about impacts on local schools and youth, law enforcements, first responders, zoning and land use, municipal ordinances and budgets. Nevertheless, the Senate has made a concerted effort to move legislation forward through the committee process in hopes of bringing legislation to a vote on the Senate floor. If the legislature authorizes the cultivation and sale of recreational marijuana to adults, there must be

adequate resources, protection, and authority granted to the local communities that will host marijuana establishments. In addition to allowing local communities the ability to prohibit and regulate these establishments, it is vitally important that municipalities be provided a reliable revenue stream to implement, administer, and enforce the legislation, exactly as Alaska, Colorado, Oregon, and Washington have done.

—Gwynn Zakov

## Permitting Process Standardization by DEC

S.123 is a bill proposed last year that aims to standardize procedures for permits and approvals issued by the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). Although formally in the Senate Natural Resources and Energy Committee, the bill has also gained traction this year in the House Natural Resources and Energy Committee. S.123 proposes to standardize procedures for public notice, public meetings, and decisions on applications for permits issued by DEC, and provide an option for appeal within the Agency of Natural Resources (ANR). Overall, there seems to be a warm reception to the goal of streamlining the permitting processes by essentially consolidating 85 permitting procedures into five, and improving access to permit applications and the information they contain. There is less consensus, however, with regard to the hearing and appeals processes proposed in the bill. There is concern with the amount of time a person has to file an appeal for an administrative appeal, the possible partiality of hearing officers assigned to appeals that are housed in ANR, the apparent high bar set for participating in such an appeal, and the lack of adequate discovery and cross-examination within the agency's internal appeals, as the process moves to an on-the-record review, from the *de novo* review process that is currently used at the Environmental Division of the Superior Court.

There are still many details in the bill that need to be addressed. We will thoroughly review S.123 for its affect on municipalities and keep you informed as to the status of this important legislation.

—Gwynn Zakov

## State Revolving Loan Funds: Water and Wastewater

In this, the year immediately following passage of Act 64, the most significant and expensive water quality legislation in Vermont in years, the surprises just keep rolling in. At the same time, how to pay for the mandates embodied in the act is a question that so far has received no satisfactory answer.

In *Weekly Legislative Reports* [No. 1](#) and [No. 3](#), we discussed the Agency of Natural Resources' (ANR's) initiatives concerning water quality legislation. H.517 would amend the state's water quality classification system to incorporate a Class A1 and A2, and Class B1 and B2. A new bill, H.674, would establish amended requirements for reporting combined sewer overflows, discharges to separate storm sewer systems, overflows from sanitary sewers, and combined sewer systems. ANR is promulgating a rule for regulating combined sewer overflows. The Agency of Transportation is seeking to limit stormwater fees that it might have to pay to municipalities which enact stormwater utilities, the mechanism that ANR favors for local management of stormwater.

H.610 would revamp the requirements for participating in the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and Water Pollution Control Revolving Loan Fund. Most importantly for local governments, H.610 would expand eligibility for the Water Pollution Control Revolving Loan Fund to all water pollution control and abatement facilities, regardless of their ownership. The bill defines these facilities as "such equipment, conveyances, and structural or nonstructural facilities as are needed for and appurtenant to the prevention, management, treatment, storage or disposal of sewage, industrial wastes, solid waste, or

stormwater, including a wastewater treatment facility, combined sewer separation facilities, an indirect discharge system, a wastewater system, flood resiliency work, an ecosystem restoration project or groundwater protection project.” Simply by redefining infrastructure that is currently termed *municipal* pollution abatement facilities to eliminate the word “municipal,” ANR would expand eligibility for funds to a host of new purposes whether or not they are municipal. Do not think that any new money is included in this legislation! Likewise, the word “municipal” would be deleted from the definition of a public water supply.

The Department of Environmental Conservation would be authorized to fund projects – municipal or not – for pollution abatement from both the Vermont EPA Pollution Control Revolving Loan Fund and the Vermont Pollution Control Revolving Loan Fund. The interest rate which, under current law, may be between 0 and 80 percent of market rate, could be increased up to 100 percent of market interest rates.

Current law provides loan criteria that ANR must apply in order to qualify for revolving loan money. They include probable public benefit of the project, long-term costs and benefits – including induced growth that is consistent with a town, city or village plan – the existence of immediate public health, safety and welfare factors, the existence of an emergency constituting a threat to public health safety and welfare, and that the project will remedy or prevent the impairment of waters if it is a stormwater project. H.610 would eliminate all of the criteria and replace them with nothing. The legislation would take effect July 1.

Local officials need to follow the progress of H.610 very closely. The bill is in the House Corrections and Institutions Committee, which received an overview of it this week. Fortunately, as a committee that is very aware of the pressures on local governments, members have lots of unanswered questions about how the legislation affects municipalities.. The revolving loan funds – although they are not grants – are the most significant funding source available for water and wastewater infrastructure projects. To propose that those funding sources are made available to all possible projects without any criteria at the same time that bills are going to come due for enormous municipal infrastructure projects is hard to comprehend.

If you are concerned about H.610, please contact your representative on the committee:

[Rep. Alice M. Emmons](#), Chair (Springfield)  
[Rep. Lynn Batchelor](#) (Derby Line)  
[Rep. Cynthia Browning](#) (Arlington)  
[Rep. Susan Davis](#) (Washington)  
[Rep. Eileen Dickinson](#) (St. Albans Town)  
[Rep. Rachael Fields](#) (Bennington)

[Rep. Joan G. Lenes](#) (Shelburne)  
[Rep. Terence Macaig](#) (Williston)  
[Rep. Linda K. Myers](#) (Essex)  
[Rep. Butch Shaw](#) (Derby)  
[Rep. Theresa Wood](#) (Waterbury)

—Karen Horn

## Local Government Day Policy Briefing Roundtables Announced

Many important issues in the legislature this session impact municipalities. Two roundtable discussions at Local Government Day (Wednesday, February 10) will address two of them: the state budget and implementation of Act 64, the Water Quality Act of 2015. The roundtables will be facilitated by Alyssa Schuren, Commissioner of the Vermont Department of Environment Conservation, and Steve Klein, Chief Fiscal Officer of the Vermont Legislative Joint Fiscal Office. Following these morning discussions, attendees can continue the conversation about these and other key issues with their representatives and the pertinent legislative committees at the State House. During lunch, local officials will be able to talk face-to-face with their representatives at the Capitol Plaza. These are important opportunities for local officials to have their voices heard! Visit [www.vlct.org/eventscalendar](http://www.vlct.org/eventscalendar) to register and learn more about Local Government Day, which is co-sponsored by the Vermont Municipal Clerks' and Treasurers' Association and the Vermont Assessors and Listers Association.

BILL NUMBER	SUMMARY OF NEW BILLS	CURRENT LOCATION
<a href="#">H.611</a>	Would make adjustments in the FY16 omnibus appropriations act, affecting the current budget.	House Appropriations
<a href="#">H.617</a>	Would limit the imposition of conditions of probation, parole, and furlough to restrict otherwise legal behavior of the person under supervision and to prohibit revocation of probation, parole, and furlough for technical violations that are not new crimes.	House Corrections and Institutions
<a href="#">H.624</a>	Would reduce the use value of land enrolled in the Use Value Appraisal Program if it is not posted and is open for recreational use.	House Ways and Means
<a href="#">H.625</a>	Would extend until 2017 the exemption from encumbrance on title of properties subject to a pre-transition stormwater permit and specify that the exemption will not apply to impaired watersheds upon the issuance of notification by the Secretary of Natural Resources.	House Fish, Wildlife and Water Resources
<a href="#">H.627</a>	Would amend the definition of "excess spending" for fiscal years 2017 and 2018.	House Education
<a href="#">H.629</a>	Would amend statutes related to the administration and issuance of vital records.	House Government Operations
<a href="#">H.632</a>	Would repeal the sunset of the authority to use a gun suppressor (i.e., silencer) at a sport shooting range.	House Fish, Wildlife and Water Resources
<a href="#">H.633</a>	Would change the Renewable Energy Standard's requirement for distributed renewable generation (known as Tier Two) so that instead of increasing from one percent in 2017 to 10 percent in 2032, the requirement would increase from one to 16 percent over the same period.	House Natural Resources & Energy
<a href="#">H.634</a>	Would support Vermont's goal to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by requiring that, in siting determinations, the Public Service Board find that an in-state solar facility will sell its renewable energy credits to a Vermont utility that will apply these credits toward the Renewable Energy Standard.	House Natural Resources & Energy
<a href="#">H.635</a>	Would modify the statutes on local land use bylaws to encourage affordable housing.	House Gen., Housing and Military Affairs
<a href="#">H.640</a>	Would eliminate the \$500 annual cap on expenses for town cemetery repairs and allow those repairs to be made in accordance with town funds maintained for that purpose.	House Gen., Housing and Military Affairs
<a href="#">H.645</a>	Would increase annually the maximum amount that may be loaned from the Municipal Equipment Loan Fund by inflation.	House Appropriations
<a href="#">H.649</a>	Would exempt from the statewide education property tax a property owned and resided in for 50 years or more by a taxpayer who is 80 years of age or older and has a federal adjusted gross income of \$25,000 or less.	House Ways and Means

<b>BILL NUMBER</b>	<b>SUMMARY OF NEW BILLS</b>	<b>CURRENT LOCATION</b>
<a href="#">H.656</a>	Would create an education tax system in which the amount of tax due is adjusted by income for all taxpayers. The current statewide education property tax system would stay in place. Instead of the current income sensitivity system, all taxpayers would have their education tax adjusted by income.	House Ways and Means
<a href="#">H.660</a>	Would require the Public Service Board, when making a siting determination for energy facilities within its jurisdiction, to defer to municipal and regional recommendations unless there is a clear and convincing demonstration that they are outweighed by other factors affecting the general good of the State.	House Natural Resources and Energy
<a href="#">H.661</a>	Would place a time limit on the issuance of Agency of Natural Resources permits that are to be used by an applicant to demonstrate compliance with Act 250 criteria.	House Natural Resources & Energy
<a href="#">H.662</a>	Would repeal the Act 250 exemptions related to slate quarries.	House Natural Resources & Energy
<a href="#">H.663</a>	Would reform various land use and environmental permit processes.	House Natural Resources & Energy
<a href="#">H.669</a>	Would require the Department of Labor to conduct a study of the workers' compensation system and opiate abuse.	House Commerce & Econ. Development
<a href="#">H.673</a>	Would direct the State to enhance workplace flexibility within State government and create a tax credit for employers that adopt alternative workplace and telecommuting programs.	House Commerce & Econ. Development
<a href="#">H.674</a>	Would require the operator of a wastewater treatment facility to notify the Secretary of Natural Resources and local health officers within defined time limits of combined sewer overflows; overflows from sanitary sewers and combined sewer systems; upsets or bypasses around or within the wastewater treatment facility during dry or wet weather conditions; and discharges of domestic, commercial, or industrial wastewater from the wastewater treatment facility to separate storm sewer systems.	House Fish, Wildlife and Water Resources
<a href="#">H.683</a>	Would prohibit setting an annual appropriations cap on the amount due to the Vermont Housing and Conservation Trust Fund at less than 50 percent of the revenue from the property transfer tax.	House Appropriations
<a href="#">H.692</a>	Would eliminate the 2017 repeal of the Vermont Employment Growth Incentive program, change the payment format for regional planning commissions and regional development corporations from contracts to grants, and allow work-based learning activities through the Vermont Training Program.	House Commerce & Econ. Development
<a href="#">H.697</a>	Would amend the requirements for the shelter of animals maintained out of doors, define the terms "adequate constructed shelter" and "adequate natural shelter," and specify requirements for the daily exercise and tethering of horses.	House Agriculture and Forest Products
<a href="#">H.698</a>	Would establish a centralized statewide system of overweight vehicle permitting.	House Transportation
<a href="#">H.701</a>	Would direct the Natural Resources Board to revise its application form and guidance documents so that an applicant may submit an application using a minimum of third party professional or expert assistance to reduce costs. Would allow potential applicants for Department of Environmental Conservation permits to rely on representations made by permit specialists concerning which DEC permits are required.	House Commerce & Econ. Development
<a href="#">H.703</a>	Would allow the installation of a net metered municipal solar facility, after the interconnecting electric company has reached its net metering cap, contingent upon agreement by that company.	House Natural Resources & Energy
<a href="#">H.704</a>	Would make amendments related to the appointment, duties, and salary of the clerk of the Public Service Board, the filing of documents in proceedings before the PSB, and the timeline for a municipal's and regional planning commission's filing of recommendations with the PSB in a certificate of public good proceeding pertaining to an energy facility siting.	House Commerce & Econ. Development

<b>BILL NUMBER</b>	<b>SUMMARY OF NEW BILLS</b>	<b>CURRENT LOCATION</b>
<a href="#">H.711</a>	Would prohibit a person from flying an unmanned aircraft for hobby or recreational purposes at an altitude of less than 100 feet above privately owned real property without the written consent of the property owner.	House Judiciary
<a href="#">H.717</a>	Would make various amendments to Act 46 of 2015; remove health insurance benefits from the subjects for bargaining for teachers, administrators, and other school employees that are subject to a collective bargaining agreement; direct qualified school employers that wish to offer health insurance coverage to their employees to purchase plans through the Vermont Health Benefit Exchange; and specify that school employers may purchase only health insurance plans that are not subject to the federal excise tax on high-cost, employer-sponsored health coverage.	House Education
<a href="#">H.718</a>	Would create an aggregate common level of appraisal for merged school districts.	House Ways and Means
<a href="#">H.724</a>	Would amend statutes relating to certain committees and programs affiliated with the Office of the Treasurer, including the Public Retirement Study Committee, the ABLE Savings Program, the Private Activity Bond Advisory Committee, and the Local Investment Advisory Committee.	House Government Operations
<a href="#">H.728</a>	Would require the Secretary of Administration to report to the General Assembly regarding the State regulatory entities that require criminal record checks as a qualification for professional regulation and the criminal offenses that can disqualify an applicant from that regulation.	House Government Operations
<a href="#">H.729</a>	Would provide a State income tax deduction for education loan payments.	House Ways and Means
<a href="#">H.735</a>	Would create an exemption from the statewide education property tax for certain municipally owned parking areas.	House Ways and Means
<a href="#">H.738</a>	Would prevent the introduction of offensive odors within places of public accommodation.	House Human Services
<a href="#">H.739</a>	Would elevate the importance of using energy efficient building components when renovating historic buildings.	House Natural Resources & Energy
<a href="#">H.743</a>	Would require law enforcement to provide roadside stop data to the Criminal Justice Training Council and Human Rights Commission, and mandate in-service fair and impartial policing training for law enforcement.	House Government Operations
<a href="#">H.747</a>	Would amend the State Treasurer's authority to intercept State funding to a municipality or school district in the event such entity is in default on a bond borrowed through the Municipal Bond Bank.	House Corrections and Institutions
<a href="#">H.748</a>	Would allow municipalities and adjoining landowners participating before the Public Service Board in a proceeding on siting an energy facility to retain expert and professional assistance and allocate the costs to the applicant. Would require air quality monitoring of facilities that use biogas to generate electricity.	House Commerce & Econ. Development
<a href="#">H.752</a>	Would require a municipality to treat a substance abuse recovery home as a single-family residential home under its land use bylaws.	House Human Services
<a href="#">H.753</a>	Would require taxpayers who report no use tax liability to file a separate signed statement that they made no taxable purchases subject to the use tax in the applicable tax year.	House Ways and Means
<a href="#">H.754</a>	Would restate in plain language the statutory provisions governing the Vermont Economic Progress Council and the Vermont Employment Growth Incentive Program.	House Commerce & Econ. Development
<a href="#">H.755</a>	Would give statutory direction to regulators to adopt certain European, Canadian, and U.S. standards to allow the importation, regulation, and use of high efficiency energy products including heat pumps, dehumidification, energy recovery, and ventilation equipment commonly used in high performance buildings.	House Commerce & Econ. Development

<b>BILL NUMBER</b>	<b>SUMMARY OF NEW BILLS</b>	<b>CURRENT LOCATION</b>
<a href="#">H.762</a>	Would allow siting jurisdiction over electric generation under Act 250 instead of the Public Service Board where the generation is not for reliability or will not be used to meet the Renewable Energy Standard.	House Natural Resources & Energy
<a href="#">H.770</a>	Would expand the authority of a municipality to fund education expenses.	House Education
<a href="#">H.774</a>	Would create a committee to study the cost of providing comprehensive reintegration services for persons released from State correctional facilities.	House Corrections and Institutions
<a href="#">H.775</a>	Would require that a criminal background check be conducted on the proposed purchaser before a firearm may be sold unless the sale is between immediate family members, by or to a law enforcement agency or officer, a or member of the U.S. Armed Forces acting within the course of his or her official duties.	House Judiciary
<a href="#">H.789</a>	Would amend the goals and requirements for municipal and regional land use planning to address forest fragmentation.	House Fish, Wildlife and Water Resources
<a href="#">H.790</a>	Would allow a voter to sign more than one primary petition or statement of nomination for the same office.	House Government Operations
<a href="#">H.792</a>	Would require the Department of Public Safety to pay for 25% of the cost to a Vermont municipality of an intermunicipal police services agreement if that municipality is at least 35 miles from the nearest State Police barracks and would receive services under the agreement from an out-of-state municipality.	House Government Operations
<a href="#">H.816</a>	Would regulate Internet-based lodging accommodations.	House Commerce & Econ. Development
<a href="#">H.821</a>	Would impose criminal penalties on health care providers who prescribe regulated drugs in an inappropriate manner; require all pharmacies that dispense regulated drugs to accept and dispose of unused and unwanted drugs; and allow partial filling of a prescription for a regulated drug and require creation of a curriculum to educate health care providers regarding the appropriate numbers of an opioid controlled substance to prescribe to a patient following different types of surgeries and procedures.	House Human Services
<a href="#">H.822</a>	Would require the Public Service Board to make findings on low frequency noise and infrasound when making siting determinations on wind turbines.	House Natural Resources & Energy
<a href="#">H.824</a>	Would create an expedited rulemaking process that will permit the Commissioner of Labor to adopt federal OSHA standards and rules without undertaking formal rulemaking pursuant to Vermont's Administrative Procedure Act.	House Gen., Housing and Military Affairs
<a href="#">H.829</a>	Would make technical amendments to water quality requirements for small farms.	House Fish, Wildlife and Water Resources
<a href="#">H.833</a>	Would establish that property receiving a use value appraisal be valued at 25% of its fair market value, rather than the use values established each year by the Current Use Advisory Board.	House Ways and Means
<a href="#">H.837</a>	Would authorize the issuance of a salvage motor vehicle title under prescribed circumstances when the original title or proof of ownership cannot be furnished to the Department of Motor Vehicles, and to expand eligibility to apply for an abandoned motor vehicle certification.	House Transportation
<a href="#">H.840</a>	Would require statutorily that an official copy of the Education Fund Outlook be prepared and published each fiscal year by the Joint Fiscal Office and reviewed annually by the Emergency Board, and the Education Fund Outlook include the total amount of new unfunded mandates.	House Education
<a href="#">H.841</a>	Would reauthorize the fuel gross receipts tax, and increase the rate on heating oil, natural gas, and propane from 0.5 percent to 1.0 percent.	House Ways and Means