

Bill Tracker OUT of Committee:

House Committees:

Agriculture, Food Resiliency, & Forestry

- H. 603 An act relating to the poultry slaughter exception to inspection, Rep. Heather Surprenant
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to repeal the requirement that poultry slaughtered under one of the three exceptions to inspection may only be sold as a whole bird from the farm, at a farmers' market, or to a food restaurant.
 - Passed the house and is now in Senate Agri.
- H. 614 An act relating to land improvement fraud and timber trespass, Rep. Marc Mihaly
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to establish the crime of land improvement fraud, including forestry operations
 - Moved to the committee on judiciary.
- H. 626 An act relating to animal welfare, Rep. Chea Waters Evans
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to establish the Division of Animal Welfare at the Department of Public Safety to develop, implement, and administer a centralized program for investigating and enforcing animal welfare requirements in the State. The bill would also amend or establish standards for the operation of animal shelters and animal rescue organizations. In addition, the bill would amend or establish requirements for the importation or transportation of animals into the State.
 - In House Committee on Government Operations and Military Affairs
- H. 706 An act relating to banning the use of neonicotinoid pesticides
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to prohibit the sale, offer for sale or use, distribution, or use of any neonicotinoid treated article seed for soybeans or for any crop in the cereal grains crop group. The bill would also prohibit the application or treatment with a neonicotinoid pesticide for multiple other uses.
 - In House Committee House Committee on Ways and Means

Appropriations

- H.543 An act relating to Vermont's adoption of the Social Work Licensure Compact, Rep. Brian Cina
 - Purpose: This bill proposes that the State adopt and enter into the Social Work Licensure Compact.
 - Passed the house and is now in the senate.
- H.649 An act relating to the Vermont Truth and Reconciliation Commission, Rep. Elizabeth Burrows,
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to extend the time for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission to complete its work by 10 months; to establish a panel with authority to fill vacancies on the Commission and to remove or reprimand commissioners for cause; to create certain 10 exemptions from the Open Meeting Law for meetings of the Commission and to permit commissioners to confer with each other; and to create a duty of confidentiality for participants in affinity groups organized by the Commission.
 - Passed the House and is now in Senate Gov. Ops.
- H.780 An act relating to judicial nominations and appointments, Rep. Martin LaLonde and more
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to make several modifications to the procedures for judicial nominations and appointments.

- Passed house and is in senate
- H.839 An act relating to fiscal year 2024 budget adjustments, House Committee on Appropriations
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to make adjustments in 6 the fiscal year 2024 omnibus appropriations act.
 - Passed by house and amendment has been proposed by Senate
- H.847 An act relating to peer support provider and recovery support specialist certification, House Committee on Health Care
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to require the Office of Professional Regulation to certify peer support providers and recovery support specialists.
 - Passed house, in senate now
- H.850 An act relating to transitioning education financing to the new system for pupil weighting, House Committee on Ways and Means
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to replace the transition mechanism from Act 127 of 2022 with a new mechanism to help school districts adapt to the new system for pupil weighting. This bill proposes to allow school districts to cancel a district vote on the fiscal year 2025 budget, amend the proposed budget, and hold a vote at a later date.
 - Passed by both House and Senate
 - Approved by Governor on 02/22/2024
- S.160 An act relating to State education property taxes and flood-related damage, Sen. Ann Cummings,
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to reimburse municipalities for certain State education property tax payments if the municipalities granted State education property tax abatements to property owners for damage caused by flooding. This bill also proposes to exclude federal disaster relief payments from household income when calculating the homestead property tax credit.
 - Passed through the House and Senate, signed by Governor on 02/07/2024

Commerce & Economic Development

- H.560 An act relating to making technical corrections to workers' compensation rulemaking requirements, Rep. Michael Marcotte
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to make technical corrections to rulemaking requirements enacted in 2023 Act and Resolves No. 76.
 - Passed by the house and is in the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs.
- H.590 An act relating to insurance protections and leave from employment for living donors, Rep. Daniel Noyes
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to provide insurance protections and job-protected leave from employment for living donors.
 - In House Committee on Health Care
- H.659 An act relating to captive insurance, Rep. Michael Marcotte
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to make various amendments to Vermont law as it pertains to captive insurance.

- Passed by house and is in senate committee on finance.
- H.666 An act relating to escrow deposit bonds, Rep. James Harrison
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to permit housing developers to finance construction costs with future resident deposits by securing resident deposits with escrow deposit bonds
 - Passed by house and is in senate committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs
- H.667 An act relating to the creation of the Vermont-Ireland Trade Commission, Rep. Conor Casey and more,
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to create the Vermont-Ireland Trade Commission to advance bilateral trade, investment, and cultural exchange between Vermont and Ireland.
 - In House Committee on Government Operations and Military Affairs

Corrections & Institutions

- H.577 An act relating to providing legal assistance to the Access Board, Rep. Alice M. Emmons
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to direct the Department of Public Safety to provide legal assistance to the Access Board for purposes of rulemaking.
 - In House Committee on Government Operations and Military Affairs

Education

n/a

Environment & Energy

- H.586 An act relating to flood protection and climate resilience infrastructure and financing, Rep. Katherine "Kari" Dolan and more
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to amend or enact multiple provisions related to improved flood protection and climate resilience in the State. The bill would also establish or authorize additional activities for the financing of climate mitigation, adaptation, and resilience projects.
 - In House Committee on Ways and Means
- H.599 An act relating to retroactively reinstating 10 V.S.A. § 6081(b), Rep. Amy Sheldon
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to retroactively reinstate 10 V.S.A. § 6081(b).
 - As Passed by Both House and Senate and Governor approved bill on February 20, 2024
- H.673 An act relating to Vermont's outdoor recreation economy, Rep. Mike Rice and more
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to direct the Vermont Outdoor Recreation Economic Collaborative to conduct an outdoor recreation economic impact study. It would also create a position at the Vermont Trails and Greenways Council. It would also appropriate funds to the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation to oversee the development of best management practices for recreational trails in cooperation with the Vermont Trails and Greenways Council.
 - In House Committee on Agriculture, Food Resiliency, and Forestry

General & Housing

- H.619 An act relating to creating reciprocal rights to landlord-tenant attorney's fees and expenses, Rep. Joseph Andriano
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to create, for any written rental agreement that contains a provision awarding a prevailing landlord attorney's fees or expenses incurred in enforcing the agreement or evicting the tenant, a reciprocal provision awarding a prevailing tenant attorney's fees or expenses.
 - In House Committee on Judiciary
- H.649 An act relating to the Vermont Truth and Reconciliation Commission, Rep. Elizabeth Burrows
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to extend the time for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission to complete its work by 10 months; to establish a panel with authority to fill vacancies on the Commission and to remove or reprimand commissioners for cause; to create certain exemptions from the Open Meeting Law for meetings of the Commission and to permit commissioners to confer with each other; and to create a duty of confidentiality for participants in affinity groups organized by the Commission.
 - Passed by house and is in Senate Committee on Government Operations
- H.664 An act relating to designating a State Mushroom, Rep. Michelle Bos-Lun and more
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to designate *Hericium Americanum*, commonly known as the bear's head tooth mushroom, as the State Mushroom.
 - In House Committee on Agriculture, Food Resiliency, and Forestry
- H.751 An act relating to expanding equal pay protections, Rep. Robin Chesnut-Tangerman and more
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to extend equal pay protections to individuals in all protected classes.
 - Passed by house and in Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs

Government Operations & Military Affairs

n/a

Health Care

- H.543 An act relating to Vermont's adoption of the Social Work Licensure Compact, Rep. Brian Cina and more
 - Purpose: This bill proposes that the State adopt and enter into the Social Work Licensure Compact.
 - Passed by the house and in Senate Committee on Health and Welfare
- H.622 An act relating to emergency medical services, Rep. Katherine Sims and more
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to expand the circumstances under which ambulance service providers are reimbursed for delivering services to Medicaid beneficiaries. It would turn the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Committee into a board and revise its duties to include developing and maintaining a five-year statewide emergency medical services plan for Vermont. The bill would create the Emergency Medical Services Task Force to oversee and manage all phases of the development, design, and implementation of a statewide emergency medical services system in Vermont. The bill would also appropriate funds to provide training for emergency medical services personnel.

- In House Committee on Government Operations and Military Affairs
- H.847 An act relating to peer support provider and recovery support specialist certification, House Committee on Health Care
 - Purpose: : This bill proposes to require the Office of Professional Regulation to certify peer support providers and recovery support specialists.
 - Passed in house and is in senate
- H.861 An act relating to reimbursement parity for health care services delivered in person, by telemedicine, and by audio-only telephone, House Committee on Health Care
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to require that health insurance plans provide the same reimbursement amounts to health care providers for delivering health care services in person, by telemedicine, and by audio-only telephone. It would also repeal a sunset on reimbursement parity for telemedicine services, as the reimbursement provision is scheduled to expire on January 1, 2026.
 - Passed in House and is in Senate Committee on Finance

House Discrimination Prevention Panel

n/a

House Ethics Panel

n/a

House Sexual Harassment Prevention Panel

n/a

Human Services

- H.815 An act relating to health equity training in correctional facilities and to community-based mental health and substance use disorder services for detained or incarcerated individuals and individuals reentering the community, Rep. Brian Cina and more
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to establish a pilot to implement health equity training for State employees, contractors, and grant recipients working in a correctional facility. It further proposes to establish a pilot for the provision of community-based mental health and substance use disorder treatment services for detained or incarcerated individuals and individuals reentering the community.
 - House Committee on Corrections and Institutions
- H.816 An act relating to mental health screenings in school-age youth, Rep. Daisy Berbeco and more
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to require the implementation of annual mental health screenings for anxiety, depression, and suicide risk in school-aged youth.
 - In House Committee on Health Care

Judiciary

- H.563 An act relating to criminal motor vehicle offenses involving unlawful trespass, theft, or unauthorized operation, Rep. Thomas Burditt and more
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to establish a five-year felony for attempted auto theft.
 - Passed by House and is in Senate Committee on Judiciary
- H.614 An act relating to land improvement fraud and timber trespass, Rep. Marc Mihaly
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to establish the crime of land improvement fraud, including forestry operations. The bill also provides that a person would be required to post a surety bond or letter of credit with the Attorney General if the person knowingly commits multiple violations of land improvement fraud, knowingly or recklessly commits multiple violations of timber trespass, or is subject to two or more unpaid civil judgements for timber trespass. In addition, the bill would provide that equipment used in the commission of land improvement fraud or timber trespass would be subject to seizure and forfeiture.
 - House Committee on Ways and Means
- H.645 An act relating to the expansion of approaches to restorative justice, Rep. Karen Dolan and more
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to create pre charge and post-charge diversion programs under the administration of the Community Justice Unit of the Office of Attorney General, and in consultation with the Department of State's Attorneys and Sheriffs, for certain eligible offenses and persons. The Department of State's Attorneys and Sheriffs has the ability to create pre-charge and post-charge diversion policies, provided they contain certain statutorily proscribed minimums and are done in consultation with the Community Justice Unit and others. These statutory standards contain minimum requirements for the administration of the diversion programs, eligibility and referral processes, rights and responsibilities, and confidentiality. The bill also proposes to create a post adjudication reparative program under the administration of the Department of Corrections, in consultation with the Judiciary, governed by memoranda of understanding that are required to outline eligible offenses, a process to supplement eligible offenses, evidence-based screening procedures, and confidentiality provisions.
 - In House Committee on Appropriations
- H.690 An act relating to establishing community restitution as a sentencing alternative, Rep. Martin LaLonde and more
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to create community restitution as a statutory sentencing alternative. This bill authorizes the Commissioner of Corrections to adopt rules governing the community restitution sentencing alternative.
 - In House Committee on Corrections and Institutions
- H.694 An act relating to sexual exploitation, Rep. Alice M. Emmons and more
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to prohibit a broader range of sexual activity between employees of the Department of Corrections and persons under their supervision and for an adult who is in a position of power over a minor.
 - Third reading in house committee, in house committee on judiciary

- H.745 An act relating to the Vermont Parentage Act, Rep. Martin LaLonde
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to make a number of amendments to the Vermont Parentage Act related to voluntary acknowledgment of parentage, adjudicating competing claims of parentage, consent to assisted reproduction, and parentage orders.
 - Passed in the house and in Senate Committee on Judiciary
- H.780 An act relating to judicial nominations and appointments, Rep. Martin LaLonde and more
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to make several modifications to the procedures for judicial nominations and appointments.
 - Passed house and is in senate

Rules

n/a

Transportation

n/a

Ways & Means

- H.543 An act relating to Vermont's adoption of the Social Work Licensure Compact, Rep. Brian Cina and more
 - Purpose: This bill proposes that the State adopt and enter into the Social Work Licensure Compact.
 - Passed by the house and is in Senate Committee on Health and Welfare
- H.554 An act relating to approval of the adoption of the charter of the Town of South Hero, Rep. Michael Morgan and more
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to approve the adoption of the charter of the Town of South Hero. This bill also proposes to authorize the Town to adopt a local option tax and appoint a Town Auditor and Town Administrator.
 - Passed by the house and is in Senate Committee on Finance
- H.629 An act relating to changes to property tax abatement and tax sales, Rep. Emilie Kornheiser and more
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to make changes to the processes for municipal tax abatement and tax sales.
 - Passed in house and is in senate
- H.645 An act relating to the expansion of approaches to restorative justice, Rep. Karen Dolan and more
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to create pre charge and post-charge diversion programs under the administration of the Community Justice Unit of the Office of Attorney General, and in consultation with the Department of State's Attorneys and Sheriffs, for certain eligible offenses and persons. The Department of State's Attorneys and Sheriffs has the ability to create pre-charge and post-charge diversion policies, provided they contain certain statutorily proscribed minimums and are done in consultation with the Community Justice Unit and others. These statutory standards contain minimum requirements for the administration of the diversion programs, eligibility and referral processes, rights and responsibilities, and confidentiality. The bill also proposes to create a post

adjudication reparative program under the administration of the Department of Corrections, in consultation with the Judiciary, governed by memoranda of understanding that are required to outline eligible offenses, a process to supplement eligible offenses, evidence-based screening procedures, and confidentiality provisions.

- In House Committee on Appropriations
- H.657 An act relating to the modernization of Vermont's communications taxes and fees, Rep. Katherine Sims and more
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to modernize Vermont's communications taxes and fees to be more competitively neutral and to provide a financial structure that equitably and sustainably finances public benefits related to communications networks in the State.
 - In House Committee on Environment and Energy
- H.659 An act relating to captive insurance, Rep. Michael Marcotte and more
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to make various amendments to Vermont law as it pertains to captive insurance.
 - Passed in house and is in senate Committee on Finance
- H.801 An act relating to approval of the adoption of the charter of the Town of Waterbury, Rep. Theresa Wood and more
 - Purpose: : This bill proposes to approve the adoption of the charter of the Town of Waterbury. This bill also proposes to authorize the Town Selectboard to adopt a local option tax.
 - Passed in house and is in senate Committee on Finance
- H.839 An act relating to fiscal year 2024 budget adjustments, House Committee on Appropriations
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to make adjustments in the fiscal year 2024 omnibus appropriations act.
 - Passed the house and senate proposes amendment
- H.847 An act relating to peer support provider and recovery support specialist certification, House Committee on Health Care
 - Purpose: : This bill proposes to require the Office of Professional Regulation to certify peer support providers and recovery support specialists.
 - Passed in house and is in senate
- H.850 An act relating to transitioning education financing to the new system for pupil weighting, House Committee on Ways and Means
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to replace the transition mechanism from Act 127 of 2022 with a new mechanism to help school districts adapt to the new system for pupil weighting. This bill proposes to allow school districts to cancel a district vote on the fiscal year 2025 budget, amend the proposed budget, and hold a vote at a later date.
 - Passed house and senate and Governor approved bill on February 22, 2024
- S.160 An act relating to State education property taxes and flood-related damage, Sen. Ann Cummings and more Act #82
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to reimburse a municipality for certain State education property tax payments if the municipality granted State education property tax abatements to property owners for

damage caused by flooding. This bill also proposes to exclude federal disaster relief payments from household income when calculating the homestead property tax credit.

- Passed house and senate and signed by Governor 2/07/2024

Senate Committees:

Agriculture

- S.301 An act relating to miscellaneous agricultural subjects, Senate Committee on Agriculture
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to make multiple miscellaneous changes to agricultural statutes. The bill would amend the requirements for the Vermont Seeding and Filter Strip Program. The bill also would amend the licensing requirements for agricultural warehouses. In addition, the bill would amend livestock dealer licensing requirements. The bill also amends eligibility requirements for financial assistance from the Vermont Agricultural Credit Corporation.
 - In senate Committee on Agriculture, set to be amended

Appropriations

- H.839 An act relating to fiscal year 2024 budget adjustments, House Committee on Appropriations
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to make adjustments in the fiscal year 2024 omnibus appropriations act.
 - Passed house, senate proposes amendment
- H.850 An act relating to transitioning education financing to the new system for pupil weighting, House Committee on Ways and Means
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to replace the transition mechanism from Act 127 of 2022 with a new mechanism to help school districts adapt to the new system for pupil weighting. This bill proposes to allow school districts to cancel a district vote on the fiscal year 2025 budget, amend the proposed budget, and hold a vote at a later date.
 - Passed house and senate and Governor approved bill on February 22, 2024
- S.160 An act relating to State education property taxes and flood-related damage, Sen. Ann Cummings and more, Act 82
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to reimburse a municipality for certain State education property tax payments if the municipality granted State education property tax abatements to property owners for damage caused by flooding. This bill also proposes to exclude federal disaster relief payments from household income when calculating the homestead property tax credit.
 - Passed house and senate and signed by Governor 2/07/2024

Economic Development, Housing & General Affairs

- S.182 An act relating to contractor liability related to subcontractor work, Sen. Mark A. MacDonald
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to require a contractor to be responsible for any harm or injury caused by a subcontractor in the performance of a construction contract that is not covered by the subcontractor's liability insurance.
 - In Senate Committee on Finance

- S.311 An act relating to bringing everyone home, Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to make multiple changes related to housing, including land use planning, Act 250, municipal zoning, taxes, and housing incentives and programs.
 - In Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy

Education

- S.191 An act relating to New American Advancement Grant Applicants
 - Purpose: This bill proposes that advancement grant applicants who are refugees, asylees, asylum seekers, humanitarian parolees, or special immigrant visa holders shall not be ineligible for the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation advancement grant solely on account of the applicant's residency status.
 - In Senate Committee on Education
- S.220 An act relating to Vermont's public libraries
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to establish unenforceable contract provisions for the licensing of electronic literary products, require public libraries to adopt policies governing the selection and reconsideration of library materials, amend the provisions governing the confidentiality of library records for library users over 12 years of age, create the positions of School Library Consultant within the Agency of Education and Library Consultants within the Department of Libraries, authorize the Department of Libraries to issue Certificates of Public Librarianship based on a program of continuing education, incorporate public libraries into the public safety statutes governing schools and school property, amend the governance structures and funding of public libraries, require the State Librarian and Board of Libraries to adopt rules governing the minimum standards for public libraries, and appropriate monies for various public library services and the accessibility of library facilities and materials.
 - In Senate Committee on Education
- S.303 An act relating to supporting Vermont's young readers, Senate Committee on Education
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to require licensed Vermont educators to complete a program of professional learning on evidence-based literacy instruction, require the Agency of Education to conduct a review of educator preparation programs to strengthen educator preparation programs' teaching of evidence-based literacy practices, and to extend the existence of the Advisory Council on Literacy to 2027. This bill also proposes to establish the Vermont Imagination Library for a three-year pilot period and to direct the Agency of Education to cooperate with the Dolly Parton Imagination Library to provide free books to Vermont children from birth to five years of age.
 - In Senate Committee on Education
- S.304 An act relating to Vermont's career and technical education programs, Senate Committee on Education
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to make changes 6 to Vermont's career and technical education (CTE) system
 - In Senate Committee on Education

Ethics

n/a

Finance

- H.850 An act relating to transitioning education financing to the new system for pupil weighting, House Committee on Ways and Means
 - Purpose: : This bill proposes to replace the transition mechanism from Act 127 of 2022 with a new mechanism to help school districts adapt to the new system for pupil weighting. This bill proposes to allow school districts to cancel a district vote on the fiscal year 2025 budget, amend the proposed budget, and hold a vote at a later date.
 - Passed house and senate and Governor approved bill on February 22, 2024
- S.160 An act relating to State education property taxes and flood-related damage, Sen. Ann Cummings and more
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to reimburse a municipality for certain State education property tax payments if the municipality granted State education property tax abatements to property owners for damage caused by flooding. This bill also proposes to exclude federal disaster relief payments from household income when calculating the homestead property tax credit.
 - Passed house and senate and signed by Governor 2/07/2024
- S.180 An act relating to the investment of State funds in credit unions, Sen. Ann Cummings
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to allow State funds to be invested in any Vermont credit union.
 - Passed senate and is in House Committee on Ways and Means
- S.199 An act relating to mergers and governance of communications union districts, Sen. Alison Clarkson
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to amend Vermont law as it pertains to communications union districts, particularly with regard to mergers, governance, and business practices.
 - Passed senate and is in House Committee on Environment and Energy
- S.240 An act relating to expanding access to Medicaid and Dr. Dynasaur, Sen. Ruth Hardy and more
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to increase eligibility for the Dr. Dynasaur program and for Dr. Dynasaur-like coverage to include income-eligible young adults up to 26 years of age. The bill would increase the income eligibility thresholds for adults in the Medicaid program over time until they reach the same level as Dr. Dynasaur. The bill would require increased reimbursement rates to providers for delivering primary care, mental health, substance use disorder treatment, long-term care, and dental services to Medicaid beneficiaries. The bill would modify the appointments to and duties of the Clinical Utilization Review Board and increase the income eligibility thresholds for Medicare Savings Programs. The bill would require Dr. Dynasaur to cover mental health services for children and young adults without a specific diagnosis if they have faced certain adverse life experiences. The bill would direct the Agency of Human Service to develop a proposal for a public option for small businesses to use to purchase health coverage for their employees and require the Agency to propose a schedule of sliding-scale cost sharing requirements for the Medicaid program.

The bill would also require the Agency to recommend modifications to specialty care reimbursement rates and to report on potential changes to the structure of Vermont's health insurance markets.

- In Senate Committee on Health and Welfare
- S.309 An act relating to miscellaneous changes to laws related to the Department of Motor Vehicles, motor vehicles, and vessels, Senate Committee on Transportation
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to make miscellaneous changes to laws related to motor vehicles and vessels
 - Passed senate and is in House Committee on Transportation

Government Operations

- H.554 An act relating to approval of the adoption of the charter of the Town of South Hero, Rep. Michael Morgan and more
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to approve the adoption of the charter of the Town of South Hero. This bill also proposes to authorize the Town to adopt a local option tax and appoint a Town Auditor and Town Administrator
 - Passed house and is in Senate Committee on Finance
- H.801 An act relating to approval of the adoption of the charter of the Town of Waterbury, Rep. Theresa Wood and more
 - Purpose: : This bill proposes to approve the adoption of the charter of the Town of Waterbury. This bill also proposes to authorize the Town Selectboard to adopt a local option tax.
 - Passed in house and is in senate Committee on Finance
- H.849 An act relating to technical corrections for the 2024 legislative session, House Committee on Government Operations and Military Affairs
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to make nonsubstantive, technical amendments to the Vermont Statutes Annotated.
 - Passed house and senate, Delivered to the Governor on February 28, 2024
- H.C.R.141 House concurrent resolution honoring Director of Elections and Campaign Finance Will Senning for his superb public service, Senate Committee on Government Operations
- S.255 An act relating to equity and public access at the Public Utility Commission, Sen. Anne Watson
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to require the Auditor of Accounts to audit the Public Utility Commission every three years. The bill would also establish the permanent Equity Advisory Group to the Public Utility Commission.
 - In Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy
- S.310 An act relating to natural disaster government response, recovery, and resiliency, Senate Committee on Government Operations
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to create the 7 Community Resilience and Disaster Mitigation Grant Program and the 8 Community Resilience and Disaster Mitigation Fund. This bill proposes to define emergency response personnel and require local emergency management organizations and local emergency planning committees to incorporate information regarding the utilization of emergency

response personnel into emergency management plans. This bill proposes to consolidate existing laws governing sewer utilities, amend the authority of sewer utilities to adopt rates based on equivalent residential units, and establish a grant program for certain joint operations of municipal stormwater utilities. The bill proposes to authorize the Department of Public Safety to create the Urban Search and Rescue Team to provide for the rapid response of trained professionals to emergencies and other hazards occurring in the State. This bill proposes to require Vermont 211 to keep confidential any personal information acquired from victims of natural disasters except for coordinating relief work for individuals. This bill proposes to require a policy making E-911 and VT-Alerts more responsive in large emergencies, to have VoIP service providers provide subscriber information to the Enhanced 911 Board, and to require telecommunications companies to notify their customers of outages impacting communication with 911 or receiving emergency notifications. This bill proposes to require the Vermont Emergency Management Division to publish best management practices for rebuilding after emergencies and for the placement and funding of local emergency shelters, and to provide interpretation services for emergency communications. This bill proposes to create a Chief Climate Resilience Officer in the Department of Public Safety. This bill proposes to require the Vermont State University and the President or 11 designee for the University of Vermont report on potentially creating postsecondary disaster management programs.

- In Senate Committee on Government Operations

Health & Welfare

- S.187 An act relating to student application of sunscreen and car seat safety, Sen. Irene Wrenner and more
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to allow students to have and apply sunscreen at school with the permission of a parent or guardian. It further proposes to amend the provisions of the existing child restraint system law and also to establish a child restraint system public outreach campaign.
 - In Senate Committee on Health and Welfare
- S.189 An act relating to mental health response service protocols Sen. Virginia "Ginny" Lyon
 - Purpose: : This bill proposes to require the Department of Mental Health to develop and distribute mental health response protocols to municipalities. It further requires the Department to enter into memorandums of understanding with State entities providing mental health response services consistent with the protocols developed for municipalities.
 - In Senate Committee on Appropriations
- S.192 An act relating to forensic facility admissions criteria and processes, Sen. Virginia "Ginny" Lyons and more
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to establish the admissions criteria and processes for a forensic facility.
- S.302 An act relating to public health outreach programs regarding dementia risk Sen. Randy Brock and more
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to direct various departments to educate health care providers and the public about dementia risks and the benefits of early detection.

Institutions

n/a

Judiciary

- S.163 An act relating to establishing two Superior judge positions, Sen. Nader Hashim and more
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to establish two new Superior judge positions.
 - In Senate Committee on Appropriations
- S.190 An act relating to statements made by a child victim of an offense involving serious bodily injury, Sen. Robert Norris and more
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to, in a criminal case involving serious bodily injury to a minor: (1) limit depositions of the victim if the victim is under 16 years of age and (2) allow hearsay statements by the victim if the victim is 12 years of age or under.
 - Passed house and is in House Committee on Judiciary
- S.209 An act relating to prohibiting unserialized firearms and unserialized firearms frames and receivers, and to juvenile offenses in the Criminal Division, Sen. Dick Sears and more
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to prohibit the possession and transfer of unserialized firearms and unserialized firearms frames and receivers, also known as ghost guns. The bill establishes a process that permits Federal firearms dealers and licensees to print serial numbers on unserialized firearms and unserialized firearms frames and receivers. The bill also requires that proceedings against persons 14–21 years of age originate in the Criminal Division of the Superior Court if the person is charged with human trafficking, trafficking a regulated drug, carrying a firearm while committing a felony, or aggravated stalking.
 - Passed senate
- S.278 An act relating to contributory negligence in a civil action involving sexual assault, Sen. Tanya Vyhovsky and more
 - Purpose: : This bill proposes to bar contributory negligence as a defense to limit a plaintiff’s recovery in an action to recover damages from a defendant who allegedly sexually assaulted the plaintiff.
 - Passed senate and is in House Committee on Judiciary

Natural Resources & Energy

- H.599 An act relating to retroactively reinstating 10 V.S.A. § 6081(b), Rep. Amy Sheldon
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to retroactively reinstate 10 V.S.A. § 6081(b)
 - Passed house and senate, Governor approved bill on February 20, 2024
- S.213 An act relating to the regulation of wetlands, river corridor development, and dam safety, Sen. Christopher Bray and more
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to amend provisions related to wetlands, river corridor development, and dam safety. The bill would establish as State policy that wetlands shall be regulated and managed to produce a net gain of wetlands acreage. The Secretary of Natural Resources would be required to amend wetlands rules to incorporate the net gain policy. The bill would require the Vermont Significant Wetlands Inventory maps to be updated and revised annually. The bill would also require

amendment to the existing Vermont Flood Hazard Area and River Corridor Rule to adopt requirements for issuing and enforcing permits for development within a flood hazard area or a mapped river corridor in the State. In addition, the bill would amend the Unsafe Dam Revolving Fund to be the Dam Safety Revolving Fund to provide loans for emergency and nonemergency funding of dam repair. The bill also provides that the owner of a dam or the owner of land on which a dam is located shall be held strictly, jointly, and severally liable for harm caused by the breach of a dam, provided that the dam has been classified as a significant or high hazard potential dam or the person who owns legal title to a dam or the owner of land on which a dam is located is not in full compliance with dam safety rules.

- In Senate Committee on Appropriations
- S.305 An act relating to miscellaneous changes related to the Public Utility Commission, Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to make multiple changes to statutes related to the Public Utility Commission, including notice requirements and energy storage facilities.
 - In Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy
- S.306 An act relating to changes to the Clean Heat Standard, Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to make multiple miscellaneous changes to the Clean Heat Standard.
 - In Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy
- S.307 An act relating to use of administrative use controls at contaminated sites, Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to authorize the Secretary of Natural Resources to use written agreements or policies, known as administrative use controls, to reduce hazards posed by a hazardous material contaminated site.
 - In Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy
- S.308 An act relating to updates to land use planning, Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to make multiple changes to the State's land use planning processes, including Act 250 permit appeals, regional plan future land use maps, and the Designated Areas.
 - In Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy

Rules

n/a

Sexual Harassment Prevention Panel

n/a

Transportation

- S.187 An act relating to student application of sunscreen and car seat safety, Sen. Irene Wrenner and more

- Purpose: This bill proposes to allow students to have and apply sunscreen at school with the permission of a parent or guardian. It further proposes to amend the provisions of the existing child restraint system law and also to establish a child restraint system public outreach campaign.
- In Senate Committee on Health and Welfare

- S.256 An act relating to Department of Motor Vehicles credentials and number plates with veteran designations, Sen. Terry Williams and more
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to extend the issuance of Department of Motor Vehicles credentials and number plates with a veteran designation to individuals disabled during active duty for training.
 - Passed by senate and is in House Committee on Transportation
- S.257 An act relating to secondary enforcement of certain motor vehicle violations, Sen. Tanya Vyhovsky and more
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to designate certain motor vehicle violations as violations that may only be enforced if a law enforcement officer has detained the operator of a vehicle for another suspected violation.
 - In Senate Committee on Judiciary
- S.309 An act relating to miscellaneous changes to laws related to the Department of Motor Vehicles, motor vehicles, and vessels, Senate Committee on Transportation
 - Purpose: This bill proposes to make miscellaneous changes to laws related to motor vehicles and vessels.
 - Passed senate and is in House Committee on Transportation