Legislative Update – 3/3/2017

This is a summary of ATOD related legislation introduced during the first session of the 2017 – 2018 biennium. Bills not passed this session will remain active for the 2018 session. To see any given bill, click on the link.

NOTE: Bill Number in **RED** indicates passed by both houses and sent to Governor for signing into law.

Jump to: House Bills 2017
Senate Bills 2017

NEW THIS WEEK:

CHANGED:

H.476 An act relating to treatment programming at correctional facilities
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/H-0476/H-0476%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to require the Department of Corrections, in consultation with the Department of Mental Health, to study and make recommendations for developing holistic treatment programming at State correctional facilities for offenders in need of substance abuse recovery treatment.
Introduced by Representatives Connor of Fairfield, Burke of Brattleboro, Carr of Brandon, Cina of Burlington, Conquest of Newbury, Donovan of Burlington, Head of South Burlington, Hill of Wolcott, LaLonde of South Burlington, Masland of Thetford, McCullough of Williston, O'Sullivan of Burlington, Stevens of Waterbury, Till of Jericho, Troiano of Stannard, Weed of Enosburgh, and Yantachka of Charlotte.
IN CORRECTIONS AND INSTITUTIONS

H.489 An act relating to expanding patient access to the Medical Marijuana Registry
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/H-0489/H-0489%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to waive the three-month patient-health care professional relationship requirement when the patient is referred to a specialist who completes a full examination and signs the medical verification form; expand the list of qualifying medical conditions; increase the number of dispensaries from four to six once the number of registered patients who have designated a dispensary reaches 4,000; allow dispensaries to serve patients and caregivers at more than one location; allow dispensaries to advertise; allow a patient to possess up to three ounces of marijuana; clarify that a dispensary may cultivate marijuana outdoors, provided the marijuana is in an enclosed, locked facility shielded from public view; allow a patient or caregiver to cultivate marijuana even if the patient has designated a dispensary; allow a dispensary to convert to a for-profit; require continuing medical education to include training on the Medical Marijuana Registry; require the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets to test independently marijuana-infused edible or potable products sold by a dispensary to ensure appropriate labeling of the tetrahydrocannabinol content.
Introduced by Representatives Emmons of Springfield, Grad of Moretown, and Shaw of Pittsford.
IN HUMAN SERVICES

H.490 An act relating to the regulation of commercial cultivation and sale of marijuana
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/H-0490/H-0490%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to establish an adult use commercial marijuana regulatory system. The Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets would license cultivators, wholesalers, product manufacturers,

retailers, and testing laboratories. The bill also establishes a structure for taxing commercial sales. It creates a wholesale tax equal to 15 percent of the wholesale sales price, a retail tax equal to 10 percent of the retail sales price, and a local tax of 2.5 percent of the retail sales price. The revenue from these taxes goes to pay for the regulation of marijuana sales, to the General Fund, and to the towns in which the sales are made. The act also allows marijuana cultivation cooperatives whereby up to 10 members may assign their right to grow marijuana to a co-op that will manage the cultivation. The marijuana cultivated at the co-op is for the members only.
Introduced by Representatives Young of Glover, Buckholz of Hartford, Burke of Brattleboro, Carr of Brandon, Colburn of Burlington, Copeland-Hanzas of Bradford, Gonzalez of Winooski, Kitzmiller of Montpelier, Mrowicki of Putney, O'Sullivan of Burlington, Rachelson of Burlington, Sharpe of Bristol, and Troiano of Stannard.
IN GENERAL, HOUSING AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

S.3 An act relating to mental health professionals' duty to warn
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/S-0003/S-0003%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to impose a duty on mental health professionals to take reasonable precautions when a patient poses an imminent risk of serious danger to a reasonably identifiable victim.
Introduced by Senators Sears, Ayer, and White
IN JUDICIARY - Favorable report with recommendation of amendment by Committee on Judiciary See http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/CALENDAR/sc170223.pdf#page=10 for recommended amendment.
PASSED SENATE WITH AMENDMENT; IN HOUSE HEALTH CARE

HOUSE BILLS INTRODUCED IN 2017:

H.8 An act relating to distracted driving
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/H-0008/H-0008%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to
(1) require the assessment of points against a person's driving record for violating the law prohibiting handheld use of a portable electronic device while driving if the offense occurs in a school zone;
(2) require the assessment of points against a person's driving record for a second or subsequent violation of the law prohibiting handheld use of a portable electronic device while driving;
(3) require that an oral or written license examination administered by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles test the applicant's awareness of the dangers of distracted driving;
(4) require the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles to recall a minor's learner's permit or junior operator's license for 30 days following a second or subsequent conviction of violating the law prohibiting handheld use of a portable electronic device while driving;
(5) amend the law creating the State's DUI Enforcement Special Fund in order to rename the Fund and expand the purpose of the Fund to include expenditures to support enforcement of the State's distracted driving laws, and make related conforming changes.
Introduced by Representatives LaLonde of South Burlington, Bissonnette of Winooski, Conquest of Newbury, Potter of Clarendon, Stuart of Brattleboro, Townsend of South Burlington, Viens of Newport City, and Willhoit of St. Johnsbury
IN TRANSPORTATION

H.20 An act relating to prohibiting consumption of marijuana in a motor vehicle
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/H-0020/H-0020%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to establish civil penalties for consuming marijuana or having an open container of marijuana while in an operating motor vehicle.
Introduced by Representatives McCoy of Poultney and Shaw of Pittsford
IN TRANSPORTATION

H.24 An act relating to drugged driving
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/H-0024/H-0024%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to prohibit the operation of a motor vehicle by a person who has a 0.05 blood alcohol level and any detectable amount of the psychoactive constituent of cannabis in his or her body.
Introduced by Representatives Grad of Moretown, Conquest of Newbury, LaLonde of South Burlington, and Viens of Newport City
IN TRANSPORTATION

H.28 An act relating to creating a public option for health care coverage
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/H-0028/H-0028%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to create a public option for health care coverage that would be available to all Vermont residents and employers and would be publicly funded. It would remove health insurance benefits from the bargainable subjects for public employees who are subject to a collective bargaining agreement and instead specify that employees who wish to have health insurance coverage would be covered under the public option.
Introduced by Representative Poirier of Barre City
IN HEALTH CARE

H.52 An act relating to increasing the smoking age from 18 to 21 years of age
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/H-0052/H-0052%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to increase the 16 smoking age from 18 to 21 years of age.
Introduced by Representatives Till of Jericho, Canfield of Fair Haven, Christie of Hartford, Donovan of Burlington, Dunn of Essex, Gonzalez of Winooski, Joseph of North Hero, Juskiewicz of Cambridge, LaLonde of South Burlington, Lanpher of Vergennes, Lucke of Hartford, Macaig of Williston, McCullough of Williston, Miller of Shaftsbury, Morris of Bennington, Partridge of Windham, Poirier of Barre City, Potter of Clarendon, Rachelson of Burlington, Squirrell of Underhill, Sullivan of Burlington, Townsend of South Burlington, Troiano of Stannard, Walz of Barre City, Webb of Shelburne, Yacovone of Morristown, and Yantachka of Charlotte
IN HUMAN SERVICES

H.54 An act relating to the Total Abstinence program
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/H-0054/H-0054%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to remove the use of prescription medication as a disqualification for restoration of driving privileges under the Total Abstinence program.
Introduced by Representatives Brennan of Colchester, Gamache of Swanton, Houghton of Essex, and Savage of Swanton.
IN TRANSPORTATION

H.89 An act relating to the service of alcoholic beverages by theaters
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/H-0089/H-0089%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to allow theaters without an alcoholic beverages license to serve alcoholic beverages to the public.
Introduced by Representatives Morrissey of Bennington, Botzow of Pownal, 2 Browning of Arlington, Corcoran of Bennington, Fields of 3 Bennington, Keefe of Manchester, Miller of Shaftsbury, Morris 4 of Bennington, and Sullivan of Dorset.
IN GENERAL, HOUSING AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

H.124 An act relating to mental health insurance benefits
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/H-0124/H-0124%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to prohibit management of mental health insurance benefits separately from other health care benefits. It also prohibits prior authorization requirements for mental health care that differ from medical or surgical prior authorization requirements.
Introduced by Representatives Donahue of Northfield, Christensen of 2 Weathersfield, Cina of Burlington, Dunn of Essex, and Pugh of 3 South Burlington.
IN HEALTH CARE

H.127 An act relating to prohibiting smoking in multi-unit housing
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/H-0127/H-0127%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to prohibit smoking in condominiums and other muti-unit housing in Vermont.
Introduced by Representative Stevens of Waterbury.
IN GENERAL, HOUSING AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

H.128 An act relating to casino events hosted by nonprofit organizations
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/H-0128/H-0128%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to increase to two events per month the number of casino events that a location owned by a nonprofit organization may be used for, one of which may be hosted by the organization that owns the location and one that may be hosted by another nonprofit organization.
Introduced by Representative Bissonnette of Winooski.
IN GENERAL, HOUSING AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

H.134 An act relating to establishing the Agency of Controlled Substances
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/H-0134/H-0134%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to establish the Agency of Controlled Substances to administer and enforce the laws relating to alcohol, tobacco, therapeutic cannabis, the State Lottery, games of chance, horse racing, motor racing, and boxing.
Introduced by Representative Stevens of Waterbury.
IN GENERAL, HOUSING AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

H.140 An act relating to the validity of criminal statutes and conditions of probation or release related to alcohol consumption
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/H-0140/H-0140%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to clarify that the policy statement in the Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse statute does not limit or affect the validity of any criminal statute or any condition of probation or release related to alcohol consumption.

Introduced by Representatives Willhoit of St. Johnsbury and Conquest of Newbury.
IN JUDICIARY

H.145 An act relating to establishing the Mental Health Crisis Response Commission
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/H-0145/H-0145%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to establish the Mental Health Crisis Response Commission for the purpose of reviewing fatalities and serious bodily injuries that occur during interactions between law enforcement and persons demonstrating symptoms of mental illness.
Introduced by Representatives Donahue of Northfield, Donovan of Burlington, and Lippert of Hinesburg.
IN HEALTH CARE

H.170 An act relating to possession and cultivation of marijuana by a person 21 years of age or older
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/H-0170/H-0170%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to remove all criminal and civil penalties for possession of two ounces or less of marijuana and cultivation of two mature marijuana plants and seven immature marijuana plants for a person who is 21 years of age or older; adjust the civil and criminal penalties for possession and cultivation of marijuana in amounts in excess of the legalized amounts; establish civil penalties for consuming marijuana in public and cultivating marijuana in a manner that is not on property lawfully in possession of the cultivator or without the consent of the person in lawful possession of the property or outside an enclosure that is screened from public view; establish criminal penalties and a civil action for damages for furnishing marijuana to a person under 21 years of age; and establish a crime of chemical extraction of marijuana.
Introduced by Representatives Grad of Moretown, Conquest of Newbury, and Burditt of West Rutland.
IN JUDICIARY

H.178 An act relating to the taxation of electronic cigarettes
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/H-0178/H-0178%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to subject electronic cigarettes to wholesale tax on “other tobacco products” under current law.
Introduced by Representatives Till of Jericho, Dakin of Colchester, Dunn of Essex, Kitzmiller of Montpelier, McCullough of Williston, Miller of Shaftsbury, Morris of Bennington, Sharpe of Bristol, Sullivan of Burlington, Walz of Barre City, Weed of Enosburgh, and Yantachka of Charlotte.
IN WAYS AND MEANS

H.179 An act relating to increasing the tobacco tax on cigarettes and new smokeless tobacco
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/H-0179/H-0179%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to raise the rate of tax on a pack of cigarettes by $1.25 per pack and to raise the tax on new smokeless tobacco products by a corresponding amount.
Introduced by Representatives Till of Jericho, Dakin of Colchester, Donovan of Burlington, Kitzmiller of Montpelier, McCullough of Williston, Miller of Shaftsbury, and Sullivan of Burlington.
IN WAYS AND MEANS

H.187 An act relating to prohibiting smoking outside places of business
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/H-0187/H-0187%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to prohibit smoking within 25 feet of the entrance or exit of a place of business.
Introduced by Representative McCormack of Burlington.
IN HUMAN SERVICES

H.197 An act relating to mental health parity for workers' compensation
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/H-0197/H-0197%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to provide workers' compensation coverage for mental conditions that result from workplace conditions that are a characteristic of or peculiar to a particular occupation.
Introduced by Representatives Copeland-Hanzas of Bradford, Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs, Hubert of Milton, and Poirier of Barre City.
IN HEALTH CARE

H.206 An act relating to adding post-traumatic stress disorder to the list of qualified medical conditions for therapeutic use of cannabis and waiving the three-month professional–patient relationship requirement for veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/H-0206/H-0206%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to add post-traumatic stress disorder to the list of qualified medical conditions for therapeutic use of cannabis and to waive the three-month professional–patient relationship requirement for veterans diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder, provided the patient has a documented diagnosis from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.
Introduced by Representatives Masland of Thetford and Troiano of Stannard.
IN HUMAN SERVICES

H.207 An act relating to therapeutic use of marijuana for relieving symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/H-0207/H-0207%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to allow people who suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder to use marijuana for therapeutic purposes to relieve symptoms of the disorder and to allow a psychologist to sign the medical verification form for a registry applicant.
Introduced by Representatives Masland of Thetford, Carr of Brandon, and 2 Troiano of Stannard.
IN HUMAN SERVICES

H.213 An act relating to establishing statewide access to drug and DUI treatment courts
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/H-0213/H-0213%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to establish statewide access to drug and DUI treatment courts programs operating in compliance with national best practice standards by 2022 by:
(1) finding that national data reveal drug and DUI court programs deliver a high return on investment and currently there is only one DUI Treatment Docket operating in the State;
(2) creating the Drug and DUI Treatment Courts Grants Board to assist counties in establishing treatment court programs compliant with best practice standards and to administer grant monies in support of these programs across the State;
(3) directing the Chief Administrative Judge to recommend a rollout schedule for providing statewide access to treatment court programs within the next five years;
(4) requiring joint reporting by the Drug and DUI Treatment Courts Grants Board and the County Drug Court Coordinator on the rollout of the treatment courts in 2019;

(5) establishing the Drug and DUI Treatment Courts Special Fund; and
(6) imposing a surcharge on the cost of obtaining a criminal history or conviction record to assist in funding statewide access to drug and DUI treatment courts.
Introduced by Representatives Grad of Moretown, Haas of Rochester, and Viens of Newport City.
IN JUDICIARY

H.237 An act relating to saliva testing
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/H-0237/H-0237%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to allow law enforcement to use saliva testing on operators of motor vehicles reasonably suspected to be drug-impaired.
Introduced by Representatives Potter of Clarendon, Bissonnette of Winooski, Brennan of Colchester, Browning of Arlington, LaLonde of South Burlington, O'Sullivan of Burlington, and Viens of Newport City.
IN TRANSPORTATION

H.258 An act relating to licensing casinos
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/H-0258/H-0258%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to permit the Lottery Commission to issue licenses for up to three casinos operated on boats on Lake Champlain.
Introduced by Representative Tate of Mendon.
IN GENERAL, HOUSING AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

H.275 An act relating to access to emergency buprenorphine
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/H-0275/H-0275%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to require that the Department of Health ensure emergency buprenorphine be available within 24 hours when requested by a Vermont resident meeting the medication assisted treatment (MAT) criteria who is unable to access MAT within that time frame.
Introduced by Representatives Lippert of Hinesburg, Conquest of Newbury, and Strong of Albany.
IN HUMAN SERVICES

H.293 An act relating to Mental Health and Addiction Services Loan Forgiveness and Development Program
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/H-0293/H-0293%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to create a Mental Health and Addiction Services Loan Forgiveness and Development Program (designed to attract mental health professionals and alcohol and drug abuse counselors to Vermont.)
Introduced by Representative Rachelson of Burlington.
IN HEALTH CARE

H.351 An act relating to casino gaming
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/H-0351/H-0351%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to require the Vermont Lottery Commissioner to issue a license for the operation of one casino in Vermont.
Introduced by Representatives Hubert of Milton, Ainsworth of Royalton, Batchelor of Derby, Beyor of Highgate, Condon of Colchester, Cupoli of Rutland City, Devereux of Mount Holly, Graham of Williamstown, Helm of Fair Haven, LaClair of Barre Town, Lawrence of Lyndon, Morrissey of Bennington, Pearce of Richford, Rosenquist of Georgia, Smith of Derby, Terenzini of Rutland Town,

and Wright of Burlington.
IN GENERAL, HOUSING AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

H.371 An act relating to alcoholic beverages
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/H-0371/H-0371%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to amend the laws relating to alcoholic beverages to:
(1) permit a licensed manufacturer or rectifier to hold events at a designated fourth-class location;
(2) increase the amount of spirits or fortified wines in mixed drinks permitted to be served by a fourth-class licensee;
(3) permit art gallery, bookstore, public library, and museum permit holders to serve spirits and fortified wines;
(4) permit nonprofits to auction spirits and fortified wines;
(5) allow holders of a fourth-class license to sell beer and wine by the keg;
(6) permit employees of a licensed manufacturer or rectifier to serve beverages at a tasting held by a second-class licensee;
(7) permit a second-class licensee to discount malt beverages under certain conditions;
(8) increase the gross revenue thresholds for the tax rates on the sale of spirits and fortified wines; and
(9) permit a first-class licensee to temporarily discount malt and vinous beverages.
Introduced by Representatives Scheuermann of Stowe, Olsen of Londonderry, Ainsworth of Royalton, Baser of Bristol, Beck of St. Johnsbury, Brennan of Colchester, Brumsted of Shelburne, Burditt of West Rutland, Christie of Hartford, Condon of Colchester, Conquest of Newbury, Corcoran of Bennington, Cupoli of Rutland City, Greshin of Warren, Jickling of Brookfield, Juskiewicz of Cambridge, Keefe of Manchester, Kimbell of Woodstock, Marcotte of Coventry, Morris of Bennington, Nolan of Morristown, Noyes of Wolcott, Parent of St. Albans Town, Sibilia of Dover, Smith of Derby, Strong of Albany, Sullivan of Dorset, Trieber of Rockingham, Troiano of Stannard, Walz of Barre City, Willhoit of St. Johnsbury, Wright of Burlington, and Young of Glover.
IN GENERAL, HOUSING AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

H.401 An act relating to card tournaments hosted by nonprofit organizations
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/H-0401/H-0401%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to permit nonprofit organizations to host up to one card tournament each week that is open to members and their guests.
Introduced by Representatives Poirier of Barre City and Conlon of Cornwall.
IN GENERAL, HOUSING AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

H.405 An act relating to fantasy sports contests
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/H-0405/H-0405%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to regulate fantasy sports contests and establish consumer protection for fantasy sports players.
Introduced by Representatives Marcotte of Coventry and Botzow of Pownal.
IN COMMERCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

H.435 An act relating to regulation of substance abuse recovery homes under local land use bylaws
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/H-0435/H-0435%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to require a municipality to treat a substance abuse recovery home as a single-family residential home under its land use bylaws.

Introduced by Representatives O'Sullivan of Burlington, Connor of Fairfield, Christie of Hartford, Burke of Brattleboro, Carr of Brandon, Cina of Burlington, Donovan of Burlington, Fields of Bennington, Hill of Wolcott, Howard of Rutland City, LaLonde of South Burlington, Masland of Thetford, McCullough of Williston, Miller of Shaftsbury, Stevens of Waterbury, Stuart of Brattleboro, Till of Jericho, Troiano of Stannard, Weed of Enosburgh, and Yantachka of Charlotte.
IN GENERAL, HOUSING AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

H.436 An act relating to residential rental agreements for substance abuse recovery homes
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/H-0436/H-0436%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to require a tenant of a substance abuse recovery home that has been certified by the Vermont affiliate of the National Alliance for Recovery Residences to vacate the premises immediately after he or she violates the terms of his or her contract with the home's operator.
Introduced by Representatives O'Sullivan of Burlington, Connor of Fairfield, Christie of Hartford, Burke of Brattleboro, Carr of Brandon, Cina of Burlington, Donovan of Burlington, Emmons of Springfield, Fields of Bennington, Hill of Wolcott, Howard of Rutland City, Kitzmiller of Montpelier, Lanpher of Vergennes, McCormack of Burlington, McCullough of Williston, Stevens of Waterbury, Stuart of Brattleboro, Till of Jericho, Troiano of Stannard, Walz of Barre City, Weed of Enosburgh, and Yantachka of Charlotte.
IN GENERAL, HOUSING AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

H.438 An act relating to health promotion
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/H-0438/H-0438%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to require health insurance coverage for services promoting healthy behaviors and to direct Vermont schools to include aspects of health promotion throughout their curriculum and facilities.
Introduced by Representatives Cina of Burlington, Burke of Brattleboro, Connor of Fairfield, Dunn of Essex, McCullough of Williston, O'Sullivan of Burlington, and Weed of Enosburgh.
IN HEALTH CARE

H.476 An act relating to treatment programming at correctional facilities
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/H-0476/H-0476%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to require the Department of Corrections, in consultation with the Department of Mental Health, to study and make recommendations for developing holistic treatment programming at State correctional facilities for offenders in need of substance abuse recovery treatment.
Introduced by Representatives Connor of Fairfield, Burke of Brattleboro, Carr of Brandon, Cina of Burlington, Conquest of Newbury, Donovan of Burlington, Head of South Burlington, Hill of Wolcott, LaLonde of South Burlington, Masland of Thetford, McCullough of Williston, O'Sullivan of Burlington, Stevens of Waterbury, Till of Jericho, Troiano of Stannard, Weed of Enosburgh, and Yantachka of Charlotte.
IN CORRECTIONS AND INSTITUTIONS

H.489 An act relating to expanding patient access to the Medical Marijuana Registry
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/H-0489/H-0489%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to waive the three-month patient-health care professional relationship requirement when the patient is referred to a specialist who completes a full examination and signs the medical verification form; expand the list of qualifying medical conditions; increase the number of dispensaries from four to six once the number of registered patients who have designated a dispensary reaches 4,000; allow dispensaries to serve patients and caregivers at more than one

location; allow dispensaries to advertise; allow a patient to possess up to three ounces of marijuana; clarify that a dispensary may cultivate marijuana outdoors, provided the marijuana is in an enclosed, locked facility shielded from public view; allow a patient or caregiver to cultivate marijuana even if the patient has designated a dispensary; allow a dispensary to convert to a for-profit; require continuing medical education to include training on the Medical Marijuana Registry; require the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets to test independently marijuana-infused edible or potable products sold by a dispensary to ensure appropriate labeling of the tetrahydrocannabinol content.
Introduced by Representatives Emmons of Springfield, Grad of Moretown, and Shaw of Pittsford.
IN HUMAN SERVICES

H.490 An act relating to the regulation of commercial cultivation and sale of marijuana
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This bill proposes to establish an adult use commercial marijuana regulatory system. The Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets would license cultivators, wholesalers, product manufacturers, retailers, and testing laboratories. The bill also establishes a structure for taxing commercial sales. It creates a wholesale tax equal to 15 percent of the wholesale sales price, a retail tax equal to 10 percent of the retail sales price, and a local tax of 2.5 percent of the retail sales price. The revenue from these taxes goes to pay for the regulation of marijuana sales, to the General Fund, and to the towns in which the sales are made. The act also allows marijuana cultivation cooperatives whereby up to 10 members may assign their right to grow marijuana to a co-op that will manage the cultivation. The marijuana cultivated at the co-op is for the members only.
Introduced by Representatives Young of Glover, Buckholz of Hartford, Burke of Brattleboro, Carr of Brandon, Colburn of Burlington, Copeland-Hanzas of Bradford, Gonzalez of Winooski, Kitzmiller of Montpelier, Mrowicki of Putney, O'Sullivan of Burlington, Rachelson of Burlington, Sharpe of Bristol, and Troiano of Stannard.
IN GENERAL, HOUSING AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

SENATE BILLS INTRODUCED IN 2017:

S.3 An act relating to mental health professionals' duty to warn
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/S-0003/S-0003%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to impose a duty on mental health professionals to take reasonable precautions when a patient poses an imminent risk of serious danger to a reasonably identifiable victim.
Introduced by Senators Sears, Ayer, and White
IN JUDICIARY - Favorable report with recommendation of amendment by Committee on Judiciary See
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/CALENDAR/sc170223.pdf#page=10 for recommended amendment.
PASSED SENATE WITH AMENDMENT; IN HOUSE HEALTH CARE

S.16 An act relating to expanding patient access to the Medical Marijuana Registry
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/S-0016/S-0016%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to waive the three-month patient-health care professional relationship requirement when the patient is referred to a specialist who completes a full examination and signs the medical verification form; expand list of qualifying medical conditions; increase the number of dispensaries from four to eight; allow dispensaries to advertise; allow a patient to possess up to three ounces of marijuana; clarify that a dispensary may cultivate marijuana outdoors provided the marijuana is in an enclosed, locked facility shielded from public view; allow a patient or caregiver to

cultivate marijuana even if the patient has designated a dispensary; allow a dispensary to convert to a for-profit; require continuing medical education to include training on the Medical Marijuana Registry; require the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets to independently test marijuana-infused edible or potable products sold by a dispensary to ensure appropriate labeling of the tetrahydrocannabinol content.
Introduced by Senators Sears, Ashe, Benning, Campion, Degree, Lyons, and White
Favorable report with recommendation of amendment by Committee on **Judiciary 2-15-17**
See http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/CALENDAR/sc170215.pdf#page=20 **for amendment.**
PASSED SENATE AS AMENDED – IN HOUSE HUMAN SERVICES

S.55 An act relating to territorial jurisdiction over regulated drug sales
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/S-0055/S-0055%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to expand Vermont's territorial jurisdiction over prohibited regulated drug sales.
Introduced by Senator Sears.
IN JUDICIARY

S.61 An act relating to offenders with mental illness
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/S-0061/S-0061%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to direct courts to appoint specialized mental health counsel to proceedings involving a person found incompetent to stand trial; change the definition of segregation to allow inmates requiring treatment to be kept in treatment settings; and require the Department of Corrections to provide evaluation, treatment, and services to those inmates who require them.
Introduced by Senators Sears and Ashe.
IN JUDICIARY

S.64 An act relating to science-based drug education
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/S-0064/S-0064%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to require the Secretary of Education to develop the curriculum for a comprehensive science-based drug education course and to require this course to be included in the minimum course of study.
Introduced by Senators Rodgers and Starr.
IN EDUCATION

S.88 An act relating to increasing the smoking age from 18 to 21 years of age
http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/S-0088/S-0088%20As%20Introduced.pdf
This bill proposes to increase the smoking age from 18 to 21 years of age.
Introduced by Senators Clarkson, Lyons, Branagan, and Pollina
IN HEALTH AND WELFARE