

1/24/05

## VPA LEGISLATIVE REPORT #3

Legislative committee agenda items of note this week:

### **House General, Housing etc Affairs**

Wednesday 1/26/05 1:30 pm “Committee discussion – Smart Growth Zoning Districts”

### **House Natural Resources & Energy**

H.28 Outdoor Lighting                      Tuesday 1/25/05, 10:15-12:00–Al Boright Legislative Council  
H.28 Outdoor Lighting                      Thursday 1/27/05, 2:00-3:00 pm–Al Boright Legislative Council  
H.49 Greenhouse Gas                        Friday 1/28/05, 10:45-12:00  
H.28 Outdoor Lighting                      Friday 1/28/05, 1:00-2:00 pm  
VPA President Deb Sachs is scheduled to testify Friday on both H.28 and H.49.

Both the House and Senate Natural Resources & Energy Committees have full agendas on energy issues. The Senate committee is devoting the week to a Renewable Energy Portfolio Standards bill.

The Legislative Council website has posted another batch of new bills – of note in these are:

**S. 44 On-site Wastewater Disposal** – a bill to allow only engineers, with monitoring programs that they certify and some insurance, to self-certify their ‘innovative’ nonprescriptive on-site wastewater systems (meaning whatever results in non-surfacing effluent.) A bill sponsored as well last session by Senators representing Addison County, to address systems in clay soils, and professional engineers.

**H.89 Stormwater Permit Notice** – a bill sponsored by some Franklin county representatives that would require ANR to identify every residential subdivision in the state that lacks a valid permit to discharge stormwater into unimpaired waters. ANR is also to provide notice to subdividers and each lot owner in these subdivisions of the lack of a valid permit and the potential encumbrance on title, and the procedure to obtain a permit. Another part of the bill addresses “routine maintenance” as defined in the general permit and as it pertains to municipal catch basin cleaning.

Fred S. Dunnington  
VPA Legislative Liaison  
Middlebury Town Planner  
[fdunnington@town.middlebury.vt.us](mailto:fdunnington@town.middlebury.vt.us)  
(802) 388-8106