

3/14/05

VPA LEGISLATIVE REPORT #8

New bills on the Legislative Council web site this week (thankfully quite a few less than the 200 last week). Of note:

H. 494 – Updating **Air Quality Standards** including emission standards for zinc oxide and zinc chloride.

H. 496 - Short Form (text being developed) uniform legal infrastructure for land recording for creating and enforcing environmental covenants helping to clean up **brownfields developments**.

H. 487 – Comprehensive **Mercury Management** - companion to a Senate mercury bill.

H. 498 - Uniform bill relating to **residential mortgages**.

S. 140 – **ATV's** - Exemption from regulation when used for “farm purposes” on highways.

H. 500 – relating to **mobile home conveyances**.

S. 142 - **Act 250 Ag Lands Mitigation** – a companion to the House Bill 392

S.143 – another **Mercury** bill.

Selected committee agenda items of interest to planners this week:

House Commerce Committee

Wednesday 9-12 **H. 334 “Discontinuance of Ancient Roads”**-with 9 witnesses scheduled to testify (local officials from Barton, Glover, Royalton and Johnson, a surveyor, a VT Title Insurance Assoc. rep. and a member of the VT Trails and Greenways Council).

House Government Operations Committee

Wednesday 9 AM **H.28 Guidelines for Outdoor Lighting** – VT State Colleges, Clint Gray VT Federation of Sportsmen and Committee discussion.

House Natural Resources & Energy Committee

Still mostly working on energy issues this week, notably on - **S. 52 Renewable Portfolio Standards**.

House Ways & Means Committee

Thursday March 17 8:30 am – 10:30 am **H.360 Downtown Tax Credit** with witnesses Rep. Kitzmiller Commerce Committee, John Hall Commissioner DHCA and Joss Besse VT Downtown Program coordinator, Jane Lendway SHPO, Paul Bruhn Preservation Trust, and Andy Broderick, Housing VT

Senate Agriculture Committee

Tuesday 8 – 10 Am **Ag Lands Mitigation** – Al Boright Leg Counsel , Elizabeth Courtney VNRC, Jean Richardson, Mike Zahner VHCB and Brenda Green, Colchester Zoning Ass't.

Senate Government Operations

Friday 9:30 – 10:30 **S.7 Landscape Architects** Jamie Feehan Lobbyist, Primmer & Piper, Jim Donovan, Thomas O'Connor PE Licensing Board, Jessica Porter Office of Professional Regulation

Senate Natural Resources & Energy Committee

Tuesday 10:30 am – and Wednesday 9am **S.56 ANR Restructuring**

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