

3/13/06

VPA LEGISLATIVE REPORT #9

This week the Legislature returns following the Town Meeting week break. Excerpts of the House and Senate Calendars for Tuesday March 14th were sent out last week - these contain a number of bills coming out of the committees of jurisdiction for "crossover" to the other body or to the "money" committees. We can expect more floor action as these bills move – and a declining emphasis on committee time on bills that did not make crossover.

In addition to watching the House and Senate Calendars this week to see what legislation is moving, planners should note the following Committee agenda items this week:

SENATE FINANCE

Growth Centers Bill

Tuesday, March 14, 2006 1:30 p.m. S.142 Growth Center Bill

Ginny Lyons, Senator, Chittenden County;

Juli Beth Hinds, Planning and Zoning Director, South Burlington

Raymond Tanguay, Town Administrator, Berlin

Sanford Miller, Town Manager, Milton

Dan Smith, Lobbyist, Greater Burlington Industrial Corporation (GBIC)

Thursday, March 16, 2006 2:00 p.m. S.142 Growth Centers Bill

Meredith Sumner, Legislative Counsel

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES & ENERGY

Tuesday, March 14, 2006

10:30 a.m. S.175 - Community Impact Studies for Large Scale Retail Operations Sen.

Vincent Illuzzi, Chair, Sen. Economic Development, Housing & General Affairs Committee

Steve Holmes, Vt. Natural Resources Council

Wednesday, March 15, 2006

10:00 a.m. S.259 - Greenhouse Gas Reduction Richard Wolfson, Professor of Physics and Environmental Studies, Middlebury College; Dr. John Boright, National Academy of Sciences, Washington, D.C. (10:45 a.m.) ;

11:30 a.m. Rep. Robert Dostis, Chair, House Natural Resources Committee on:

H.253 - Appliance Energy Efficiency Standards

H.859 - Omnibus Energy Bill

H.860 - Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI)

Thursday, March 16, 2006 9:00 a.m. Update on Act 61 (S.52 - Renewable Energy) Riley

Allen, Dir. for Regulated Planning, Public Service Dept. James Volz, Chair, Public Service Board (9:30 a.m.)

HOUSE JUDICIARY Wednesday, March 15, 2006

9:00 a.m. **S. 246 - Eminent Domain** Walk-thru Michele Childs, Legislative Counsel

9:30 a.m. - 12:00 **S. 246 - Eminent Domain** Karen Horn, VT League of Cities and Towns

HOUSE AGRICULTURE

Tuesday, March 14, 2006 2:30 PM **S.204 Offset Projects in Stormwater-Impaired Waters**
Sen. Sarah Kittell, Vermont Senate

HOUSE WAYS & MEANS

Thursday, March 16, 2006 **Property Transfer Tax Bills**

9:00 am **H.857, Property Transfer Tax & Affordable Housing** Rep Brooks, Chair, General, Housing & Military Affairs Tayt Brooks, Home Builders & Remodelers Association of Vermont Chris Rice, Vt Association of Realtors;

H.858, Tax Credit for Affordable Housing Rep Valliere, General, Housing & Military Affairs Committee;

H.868, Property Transfer Tax, Municipal Land Records Rep Bohi, Vice-Chair, House Government Operations Committee;

H.772, Graduated Property Transfer Tax Rates

Friday, March 17, 2006 8:30 am **H.872, Tax Credit for Energy Efficient Homes**

Rep Keenan, Chair, Commerce Committee; Susan Mesner, Tax Dept; Tayt Brooks, Home Builders & Remodelers Association of Vermont ;Blair Hamilton, Efficiency Vermont ; James Moore, Vt Public Interest Research Group

Note: House and Senate Transportation Committees have no scheduled agendas for the week as of Monday 3/13/06 10 pm

Wednesday, March 15, 2006

8:00-9:30AM **Legislative Breakfast - Vt. Environmental Court - Barre**

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