

## VPA LEGISLATIVE REPORT #13

### *Highlights:*

- **Committee agendas this week schedule discussion of S.142 Growth Centers Bill and related S.291 Tax Increment Financing (TIF) bill in eight committees – believed to be a record number of House Committees at the same time:**  
*Natural Resources – (main committee of jurisdiction)*  
*General Housing & Military Affairs (housing issues)*  
*Institutions (ANR incentives; BG&S state facilities siting issues)*  
*Transportation (transportation enhancement and other incentives)*  
*Agriculture (ag lands mitigation in Act 250)*  
*Education (school siting issues)*  
*Commerce (tax increment financing and economic development issues)*  
*Ways & Means (tax increment financing and tax credits issues)*

### *Committee agendas:*

#### HOUSE NATURAL RESOURCES & ENERGY

Tuesday, April 11, 2006 9:30-12:00 p.m. **S.142 - Growth Centers** Committee Discussion

1:15 p.m. **Caucus** 2:00-4:00 p.m. **S.142 - Growth Centers** Committee Discussion

4:30-6:00 p.m. **S.142 - Growth Centers** Committee Discussion

Wednesday, April 12, 2006 8:30 - 9:30 a.m. **Chairs and Vice-Chairs Meeting**

9:00-12:00 p.m. **S.142 - Growth Centers** Committee Discussion

1:00-2:00 p.m. **S.142 - Growth Centers** Committee Discussion

2:00-4:00 p.m. **S.142 - Growth Centers** Rep. Francis Brooks, Chair, House Committee on General, Housing and Military Affairs (2:00 p.m.); Rep. Alice Emmons, Chair, House Committee on Institutions (2:30 p.m.) ; Rep. Richard Westman, Chair, House Committee on Transportation (3:00 p.m.); Rep. David Zuckerman, Chair, House Committee on Agriculture (3:30 p.m.)

4:00-6:00 p.m. **S.124 - Vermont Yankee** Committee Discussion

Thursday, April 13, 2006 9:00-12:00 p.m. **S.142 - Growth Centers** Committee Discussion

1:15 p.m. **FLOOR** 2:00-3:30 p.m. **S.124 - Vermont Yankee** Committee Discussion

4:00-6:00 p.m. **S.142 - Growth Centers** Committee Discussion

Friday, April 14, 2006 9:00-12:00 p.m. **S.142 - Growth Centers** Committee Discussion

1:00-3:00 p.m. **S.142 - Growth Centers** Committee Discussion and Vote

3:30-5:00 p.m. **S.124 - Vermont Yankee** Committee Discussion

#### HOUSE INSTITUTIONS

Tuesday, April 11, 2006 9:30 AM **Floor** after the Floor: **S.142, Growth Centers** Al Boright, Leg. Counsel; Larry Fitch, ANR; Bill Talbott, DOE ; Tasha Wallis, Commissioner, BGS; Pat Moulton Powden, Natural Resources Board

1:00 PM **Caucus** 2:30 PM **S.142, Growth Centers** Al Boright, Leg. Counsel; Larry Fitch, ANR; Bill Talbott, DOE; Tasha Wallis, BGS ; Pat Moulton Powden, Natural Resources Board

## **HOUSE TRANSPORTATION**

Tuesday, April 11, 2006 11:00 a.m. **S.142 - Downtowns, Village Centers and Growth Centers**  
Brian Shupe, Forum on Sprawl; Jay Kenlan; Michael Zahner, Natural Resources Board; Jim Saudade, Housing and Community Affairs

## **HOUSE AGRICULTURE**

Tuesday, April 11, 2006 **S.142 Creation of Designated Growth Centers and Downtown Tax Credits Program** Stephen Kerr, Secretary, Agency of Agriculture; Steve Holmes, VNRC ; Tayt Brooks, Lobbyist, Home Builders and Remodelers Association of Vermont; Vermont Farm Bureau ; Fred Dunnington, Vermont Planners Association.

## **HOUSE EDUCATION**

Tuesday, April 11, 2006 9:30 a.m. **School Component of Downtown Bill**  
*Committee Discussion*

## **HOUSE COMMERCE**

Tuesday, April 11, 2006

8:30 a.m. **S.142 - Downtowns and Growth Centers** Al Boright, Legislative Counsel

3:00 p.m. **S.291 - Tax Increment Financing Districts for Milton, South Burlington and Berlin** Charles Merriman, Department of Taxes; Beth Pearce, Deputy Treasurer; Committee Discussion

Wednesday, April 12, 2006 8:30 a.m. **Chairs and Vice-Chairs Meeting** 9:30 a.m. **Floor Action**

11:00 a.m. **S.291 - Tax Increment Financing Districts for Milton, South Burlington and Berlin** Committee Discussion

3:00 p.m. **S.142 - Downtowns and Growth Centers** Committee Discussion

Thursday, April 13, 2006

9:00 a.m. **S.142 - Downtowns and Growth Centers** Committee Discussion

10:30 a.m. **S.291 - Tax Increment Financing Districts for Milton, South Burlington and Berlin** Committee Discussion

## **HOUSE WAYS & MEANS**

Tuesday, April 11, 2006 9:00 am **S.142, Downtowns & Growth Centers**

Joss Besse, Vt Downtown Program, Agency of Commerce & Community Development;  
Emily Bergquist, Legislative Council

10:00 am **House Convenes**

After - **S.142, Downtowns & Growth Centers, Testimony Continued**

Paul Bruhn, Exec Director, Preservation Trust of Vermont

Noon **Lunch** 1:15 pm **Caucus**

After- **S.142, Downtowns & Growth Centers, Continued**

After- **S.127, Vermont Housing Finance Agency, Committee Discussion, Preliminary Decision**

Wednesday, April 12, 2006 8:30 am **Chairs/Vice-Chairs Meeting** 9:30 am **House Convenes**  
After - **S.291, TIFs Testimony** Meredith Sumner, Legislative Council

Noon **Lunch**

1:15 pm **S.291, TIFs, Testimony Continued**

Karen Lafayette, City of Burlington

Juli Beth Hinds, Director, Planning & Zoning, City of S Burlington

Gerry Myers, City Manager, Winooski

Paul Giuliani, Bond Counsel

Karen Horn, Vt League of Cities & Towns

Sandy Miller, Town Manager, Milton

Ernie Pomerleau, Pomerleau Realty

Thursday, April 13, 2006

**Progress Reports** 11:10 am **S.142, Downtowns & Growth Centers** Rep Dostis, Chair, House  
Natural Resources & Energy Committee

After - **S.291, TIFs** Rep Keenan, Chair, Commerce Committee

Noon **Lunch**

Friday, April 14, 2006

8:30 am **S.142, S.291, Downtowns & Growth Centers and TIFs**

9:30 am **House Convenes**

After - **S.142, S.291, Downtowns & Growth Centers and TIFs, Committee Discussion**

Noon **Lunch**

*Meanwhile this week in the Senate...*

## **SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES & ENERGY**

Tuesday, April 11, 2006

9:00 a.m. **H.817 - Stormwater** Karen Horn, Vt. League of Cities & Towns ; Pete Laflamme,  
Dept. of Environmental Conservation ; Mary Borg, Dept. of Environmental Conservation

9:45 a.m. **H.859 - Omnibus Energy Bill** - Kerrick Johnson, Central Vt. Public Service; Steve  
Kimbell, Green Mountain Power (10:00 a.m.) Tom Buckley, Burlington Electric Dept. (10:15

a.m.) ; Rich Smith, Dep. Comm., Public Service Dept. (10:30 a.m.)

10:45 a.m. **H.859 - Omnibus Energy Bill** Committee Discussion

11:30 a.m. **FLOOR**

Wednesday, April 12, 2006 8:30 a.m. **H.211 - Motor Vehicles; diesel emissions** Ed Miller, Vt.  
Truck and Bus Assn. ; Committee discussion

10:00 a.m. **H.294 - Groundwater** Michael O'Grady, Leg. Counsel

11:00 a.m. **Committee discussion of new bills**

11:30 a.m. **FLOOR**

Thursday, April 13, 2006 8:30 a.m. **H.253 - Energy Efficiency Appliance Standards** Rich  
Smith, Dep. Comm., Dept. of Public Service

10:00 a.m. **H.859 - Omnibus Energy Bill** Committee Discussion

11:30 a.m. **FLOOR**

**SENATE GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**

Thursday, April 13, 2006

10:30 a.m. **H.701 - Ancient Roads** Jim Hutchinson, House Reporter;

Brian Leven, Legislative Council;

Steve Jeffrey, VLCT ;

Steve Kimbell, Lobbyist

11:30 a.m. **Senate Floor**

Fred S. Dunnington

VPA Legislative Liaison

[fdunnington@town.middlebury.vt.us](mailto:fdunnington@town.middlebury.vt.us)

(802) 388-8106 x 228