

4/17/06

## VPA LEGISLATIVE REPORT #14

### *Highlights:*

- **Continued committee discussion of S.142 Growth Centers and related S.291 Tax Increment Financing (TIF) bills – as the end of the session draws near...**
- **House Natural Resources schedules work on S.142 Monday and Tuesday**
- **House Commerce schedules discussions through Tuesday and possibly Wednesday**
- **House Ways & Means schedules discussions through Thursday.**
- **Senate Institutions continues discussion of H.28 Outdoor Lighting**
- **Senate Gov't Operations continues discussion of H.701 Ancient Roads**

Dear VPA Members -

As of the end of last week it appeared that the House Natural Resources Committee was reaching some consensus regarding its changes to the Growth Centers Bill - notably on the contentious issue of separate industrial parks. A hybrid of the Zahner / Schupe / VNRC language was tentatively agreed to - which appeared consistent with the position taken by the VPA Legislative and Executive Committees. However, we are awaiting the rewrite of the bill.

Meanwhile the House Ways & Means Committee seemed to have many questions about the Tax Increment Financing incentives connected to the Growth Centers bill - and a number of questions about the Growth Centers bill itself .

I will attempt to send out a supplemental report by week's end, as I will be out of State next week.

Committee schedules this week call for decisions - it is believed the House leadership does want to get the bill out of committees by week's end (It had a similar hope last week).

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### **HOUSE NATURAL RESOURCES & ENERGY**

**Tuesday, April 18, 2006 9:00 - noon S.142 - Growth Centers Committee Discussion & Bill Mark-up**

**noon - till completion S.142 - Growth Centers Bill Mark-up and Vote**

**Wednesday, April 19, 2006 9:00 - noon S.124 - Vermont Yankee Committee Discussion**

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

**2:30 - 4:00 p.m. S.138 - Use Value Enrollment of Municipal Watershed Land** Sen. Jane Kitchel, Sponsor; Karen Horn, Vt. League of Cities & Towns

**Thursday, April 20, 2006 9:00 - 10:30 a.m. S.259 - Green House Gases** Sen. Ginny Lyons, Chair, Sen. Natural Resources & Energy Committee; Richard Smith, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Public Service

10:30 - noon **S.124 - Vermont Yankee** Committee Discussion

1:15 - 2:30 p.m. **Floor**

2:30 p.m. **TBA**

Friday, April 21, 2006 10:00 a.m. **Floor Action**

1:00 - 3:00 p.m. **TBA**

### **HOUSE COMMERCE**

Tuesday, April 18, 2006 10:00 a.m. **Floor** 11:00 a.m. **S.291 - Tax Increment Financing Districts**

*Local Option Taxes* Karen Lafayette, City of Burlington

11:30 a.m. **S.291 - Tax Increment Financing Districts**

*TIF Bonding* Paul Giuliani, Esq., Montpelier

1:00 p.m. **Caucus** 2:30 p.m. **Committee Discussion**

Wednesday, April 19, 2006 9:00 a.m. **Committee Discussion**

### **HOUSE WAYS & MEANS**

Tuesday, April 18, 2006

1:15 pm **Caucus**

After: **S.142, Downtowns & Growth Centers. Walk Through, Natural Resources & Energy Report. Committee Discussion**

Wednesday, April 19, 2006

8:30 am **S.142/S.291, Downtowns, Growth Centers, TIFs. Committee Discussion & Necessary Testimony. TIFs Walk Through, Commerce Report, Decisions**

Noon **Lunch**

1:15 pm **House Convenes**

After: **S.142/S.291 Continuation**

Thursday, April 20, 2006

8:30 am **S.142/S.291, Downtowns, Growth Centers, TIFs. Decisions**

Noon **Lunch**

1:15 pm **House Convenes**

*Meanwhile this week in the Senate...*

### **On Tuesday's Senate Calendar**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS OF TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 2006

#### **Third Reading**

**H. 860** Vermont's participation in the regional greenhouse gas initiative  
Sen. Copenrath amendment

**H. 876** Relating to management of exposure to mercury

#### **NOTICE CALENDAR**

**H. 253** Establishing energy efficiency standards for certain appliances

Natural Resources and Energy Committee Report  
**H. 294** Relating to groundwater management  
Natural Resources and Energy Committee Report  
**H. 602** An act relating to agricultural energy and fuel production  
Agriculture Committee Report  
**H. 817** Relating to stormwater management  
Natural Resources and Energy Committee Report

**SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES & ENERGY**  
*(NO PUBLISHED AGENDA)*

**SENATE INSTITUTIONS**

Thursday, April 20, 2006

2:00 - 3:00 PM **H.28, Outdoor Lighting**

Donna Lescoe, Starksboro

Jack St. Louis, Pres., Vt. Astronomical Society

Gabe Arnold, Vt. Energy Investment Corp.

**SENATE GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**

Tuesday, April 18, 2006 9:30 a.m. **H.701 - Ancient Roads**

Peg Elmer, VT Dept. Housing & Community Affairs

Andy Mikell, VT Attorneys Title

Ed Larson, VT Forest Products

Chris D'Elia, VT Bankers Association

Steven McLeod, VT Traditions

Peter Young, BISHCA

Andrew Dussault, St. Johnsbury

Jodi French

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

Thursday, April 20, 2006 10:30 a.m. **H.701 - Ancient Roads**

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

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