

VPA LEGISLATIVE REPORT #9 – 2008

VPA Legislative Committee Members Assignments: Fred Dunnington (VT Legislative Liaison), Sharon Murray (NNECAPA Legislative Liaison) - - both of us are assigned to particularly follow bills on Housing / 'New Neighborhoods', Chapter 117 Technical Corrections, and Planning Coordination, Sarah Hadd (Prime Ag bills), Scott Gustin (Riparian buffer bill), Greg Brown ('New' Neighborhoods), Brian Shupe and Mike Munson (Growth Centers, 'New' neighborhoods, impact fees), Deb Sachs (Energy and Climate Change), Peg Elmer (Planning Coordination and Chapter 117 Technical Corrections) and Lani Ravin (stormwater legislation).

Crossover deadline – this Friday March 14th

On the House Notice Calendar Favorable with Amendment:

H. 863 Affordable Housing and Smart Growth Development..... 791

Rep. Head for General, Housing and Military Affairs

Rep. Klein for Natural Resources and Energy..... 791

Rep. Peterson for Ways and Means..... 802

<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/docs/legdoc.cfm?URL=/docs/2008/calendar/hc080311.htm>

COMMITTEE AGENDAS – of note –

HOUSE GENERAL, HOUSING & MILITARY AFFAIRS

Tuesday, March 11, 2008

- 10:00 a.m. **Legislature Convenes**
- 15 Min. **H.863 - Creation and Preservation of Affordable Housing and Smart Growth Development - House Ways & Means Amendments, House Natural Resources Amendments**
- after Adj. Rep. Mary Peterson, Member, House Ways and Means
- Rep. Tony Klein, Member, House Natural Resources & Energy Committee
- 1:15 p.m. **Caucus**

2:30 p.m. **H.863 - Creation and Preservation of Affordable Housing and Smart Growth Development Cont'd**
Committee Discussion and Possible Vote on Amendments

HOUSE FISH, WILDLIFE & WATER RESOURCES

Tuesday, March 11, 2008

10:00PM **Floor**
1:00PM **Caucus**
2:00PM **H.685 Enforcement of Environmental Laws**

Wednesday, March 12, 2008

8:30AM **H.685**
Gary Kessler, Enforcement Division, Ag. of Nat. Resources
Catherine Gjessing, Legal Division, Ag. of Nat. Resources
Kim Greenwood, Staff Scientist, VNRC (9:15AM)
Matthew Levin, Outreach and Development Director, Vermonters for a Clean Environment, Inc. (11:30AM)
1:00PM **Floor**
2:00PM **H.685**
David Mears, Professor, VT Law School (3:30PM)

Thursday, March 13, 2008

9:00AM **H.685**
Anthony Iarrapino, Conservation Law Foundation
1:00PM **Floor**
2:00PM **TBA**

Friday, March 14, 2008

9:30AM **Floor**
11:00AM **H.685**
1:00PM **H.685**
VOTE

HOUSE NATURAL RESOURCES & ENERGY

Tuesday, March 11, 2008

9:30AM **H.875 Sale of Real Property or Transmissions Facilities by Certain Regulated Generators of Electricity**
Joint meeting with House Committee on Commerce ROOM 11

Richard Smith, Deputy Commissioner, Dept. of Public Service
Public Service Board
Gerry Morris, for Entergy VT Yankee
Neal Robinson, Chief Financial Officer, VELCO
Leslie Cadwell, General Counsel, VELCO
Ernie Hiatt, General Manager, VELCO
Kerrick Johnson, Vice President of External Affairs, VELCO
Stephen Kimbell, for Green Mt. Power
Tom Buckley, Burlington Electric Department

Wednesday, March 12, 2008

9:00AM **TBA**

1:00PM **Floor**

2:00PM **H.549 Establishing Waterfront Buffer Zones**

Rep. David Deen, House Comm. on Fish, Wildlife and Water Resources

Thursday, March 13, 2008

9:00AM **H.561 Allowing Business Directional Signs In Adjoining Municipalities**

Amy Gamble, Traffic Systems Engineer, Agency of Transportation

SENATE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, HOUSING & GENERAL AFFAIRS

Tuesday, March 11, 2008

11:30 **S.331 - Workforce Development for Green Technologies**

a.m. *Proposed Amendment; Committee Discussion; Possible Vote*

Thursday, March 13, 2008

9:30 **S.244 - Self Storage Facilities**

a.m. *Proposed Amendment; Possible Vote*

Thad Lorentz, Board Member and Owner of a Storage Facility

10:00 **Brownfield's Report**

a.m. *Act 67 (S.190), 2007*

Jim Saudade, Deputy Secretary, Agency of Commerce & Community Development

John Sayles, Deputy Secretary, Agency of Natural Resources & Energy

11:00 **S.237 - Allowing Building Contractors the Opportunity to Repair Defective Construction Work**

a.m.

Witnesses TBA

11:30 **Senate Floor Convenes**

a.m.

Friday, March 14, 2008

9:00 **TBA**

a.m. *ROOM: 11, State House*

9:30 **Relating to Evictions, Unpaid Rent, and Abandoned Property in Rental Property**

a.m. *Proposed Draft Legislation; ROOM: 11, State House*

Ken Sassorossi, Vice President of Program Development, Housing

Vermont
Nadine Scibek, Esq., Burlington
Patty Prince, Landlord, Morrisville
Stuart Bennett, Esq., Vermont Landlords Association
Stephen Unsworth, Esq., Essex Junction
Ted Wimpey, Director, Coordinated Statewide Housing Services,
Division of CVOEO/CSHS, Burlington
Jack McCullough III, Esq., Vermont Legal Aid, Inc., Waterbury
(tentative)
Erhard Mahnke, Vermont Affordable Housing Coalition

SENATE FINANCE

Tuesday, March 11, 2008

1:30 **S.350 Energy Independence and Economic Prosperity**

p.m. *Testimony*

Elizabeth Courtney, Director, Vermont Natural Resources Council
John Sayles, Deputy Secretary, Agency of Natural Resources
Avram Patt, Manager, Washington Electric Coop
Brian Keefe, Vice President, Government Relation and Public Affairs,
Steve Kimbell, Lobbyist, Green Mountain Power
Tom Buckley, Manager, Customer and Energy Services, Burlington Electric Department
Bill Driscoll, Vice President, Associated Industries of Vermont
Melinda Moulton, CEO/Redeveloper, Main Street Landing; Vermont Businesses for
Social Responsibility

Wednesday, March 12, 2008

- **S.350 Energy Independence and Economic Prosperity**

Senate convenes at 1:30 p.m.; Finance Committee convenes when Senate adjourns

James Moore, Vermont Public Interest Research Group
Alexander Lee, Project Laundry List - via telephone (3:30 p.m.)

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES & ENERGY

Tuesday, March 11, 2008

10:00 a.m. **FLOOR**

10:30 a.m. **S.294 - Dry Cask Storage of Spent Nuclear Fuel Rods**
or whenever off the floor

Al Boright, Leg. Counsel

Wednesday, March 12, 2008

9:00 a.m. **S.294 - Dry Cask Storage**

Richard Smith, Dep. Comm., Dept. of Public Service
Sarah Hofmann, Dir. for Public Advocacy, DPS
Arnie Gundersen, Nuclear Engineer (9:45 a.m.)

Dr. Alan K. Betts, Atmospheric Scientist (10:15 a.m.)
10:45 a.m. **BREAK**
11:00 a.m. **S.294 - Dry Cask Storage**
Dr. Leslie Kanat, Prof. of Geology, Johnson State College
Larry Becker, State Geologist, ANR (11:30 a.m.)
Cort Richardson, Dir., Northeast High Level Radioactive Waste Transportation
Project (11:45 a.m.)

Thursday, March 13, 2008

9:00 a.m. **To be announced**
9:45 a.m. **S.152 - Prevention of Lead Poisoning**
Committee Discussion
10:15 a.m. **BREAK**
10:30 a.m. **S.294 - Dry Cask Storage**
Committee Discussion
11:30 a.m. **FLOOR**
5:15-7:30 **To be announced**
p.m.

Friday, March 14, 2008

9:00 a.m. **S.304 - Groundwater Withdrawal**
Final Mark-up
9:00 a.m. **S.152 - Prevention of Lead Poisoning**
Final Mark-up
9:00 a.m. **S.294 - Dry Cask Storage**
Final Mark-up
10:15 a.m. **BREAK**
10:30 a.m. **Bill Mark-up (cont'd)**
11:30 a.m. **FLOOR**

Links to VPA's bills of interest (as introduced):

**H.863 AN ACT RELATING TO CREATION AND PRESERVATION OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND
SMART GROWTH DEVELOPMENT**

<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/docs/legdoc.cfm?URL=/docs/2008/bills/intro/H-863.htm>

S.267 Potential traffic impact - notice to potential interested parties

<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/docs/legdoc.cfm?URL=/docs/2008/bills/intro/S-267.htm>

S.268 – Act 250 Criterion 9B

<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/docs/legdoc.cfm?URL=/docs/2008/bills/intro/S-268.htm>

S.287 -State planning coordination bill

<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/docs/legdoc.cfm?URL=/docs/2008/bills/intro/S-287.htm>

S.300 - Conservation; Act 250; smart growth principles and state funding

<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/docs/legdoc.cfm?URL=/docs/2008/bills/intro/S-300.htm>

S.304 Groundwater protection; groundwater withdrawal

<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/docs/legdoc.cfm?URL=/docs/2008/bills/intro/S-304.HTM>

S.317 – Chapter 117 Technical Corrections

<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/docs/legdoc.cfm?URL=/docs/2008/bills/intro/S-317.htm>

S.325 – TIF (Tax Increment Financing) technical corrections bill

<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/docs/legdoc.cfm?URL=/docs/2008/bills/intro/S-325.htm>

H. 561 - tourism directional / off premises business signs

<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/docs/legdoc.cfm?URL=/docs/2008/bills/intro/H-561.HTM>

H.594 - Chapter 117 interested person status; conservation commission

<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/docs/legdoc.cfm?URL=/docs/2008/bills/intro/H-594.htm>

H.669 Downtown Program designation renewals 3yrs to 5yrs

<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/docs/legdoc.cfm?URL=/docs/2008/bills/intro/H-669.htm>

H.694 AN ACT RELATING TO ALLOWING MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT REVIEW DECISIONS TO BE MADE BY MAJORITY VOTE, A QUORUM BEING PRESENT

<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/docs/legdoc.cfm?URL=/docs/2008/bills/intro/H-694.htm>

H.696 AN ACT RELATING TO GIVING ACT 250 APPLICANTS THE OPTION OF ON-THE-RECORD REVIEW

<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/docs/legdoc.cfm?URL=/docs/2008/bills/intro/H-696.htm>

H.697 AN ACT RELATING TO REQUIRING THAT JUDICIAL REVIEW OF PLANNING AND ZONING CHAPTER DECISIONS IN TOWNS OF MORE THAN 5,000 PERSONS BE CONDUCTED ON THE RECORD

<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/docs/legdoc.cfm?URL=/docs/2008/bills/intro/H-697.htm>

H.698 AN ACT RELATING TO ESTABLISHING A UNIFORM FEE-SETTING PROCEDURE FOR DEVELOPMENT REVIEW

<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/docs/legdoc.cfm?URL=/docs/2008/bills/intro/H-698.htm>

H.722 24 V.S.A. § 4454 ENFORCEMENT; LIMITATIONS - actions involving “curb cut” and other permits for working within a town highway right-of-way limited to a 15-year statute of limitations.

<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/docs/legdoc.cfm?URL=/docs/2008/bills/intro/H-722.htm>

H.703 AN ACT RELATING TO AMENDING ACT 250 TO AUTHORIZE AN APPLICANT TO MITIGATE THE LOSS OF CERTAIN NECESSARY WILDLIFE HABITAT

<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/docs/legdoc.cfm?URL=/docs/2008/bills/intro/H-703.htm>

H.801 AN ACT RELATING TO STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/docs/legdoc.cfm?URL=/docs/2008/bills/intro/H-801.htm>

H.792 AN ACT RELATING TO THE ADOPTION OF MUNICIPAL BYLAWS
<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/docs/legdoc.cfm?URL=/docs/2008/bills/intro/H-792.htm>

H.821 AN ACT RELATING TO TAX INCENTIVE FINANCING OF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION
<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/docs/legdoc.cfm?URL=/docs/2008/bills/intro/H-821.htm>

H.841 AN ACT RELATING TO A CONCIERGE BUSINESS ASSISTANCE SERVICE
<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/docs/legdoc.cfm?URL=/docs/2008/bills/intro/H-841.htm>

H.828 AN ACT RELATING TO INCREASING THE SUPPLY OF HOUSING THAT WILL BE PERMANENTLY AFFORDABLE TO LOW INCOME VERMONTERS (statewide 20% inclusionary zoning) SHORT FORM

<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/docs/legdoc.cfm?URL=/docs/2008/bills/intro/H-828.HTM>

Fred S. Dunnington fdunnington@town.middlebury.vt.us

VPA legislative Liaison
(802)388-8106