

VPA LEGISLATIVE REPORT #13 – 2008

VPA Legislative Committee Members : Chair: Dana Farley. Fred Dunnington (VT Legislative Liaison), Sharon Murray (NNECAPA Legislative Liaison), Sarah Hadd , Scott Gustin, Mike Munson , Deb Sachs, Peg Elmer.

H.863 Affordable Housing - Smart Growth in Senate Economic Dev. & Housing Committee Tuesday & Wednesday...

Committee Agendas of Note:

HOUSE COMMERCE

Thursday, April 10, 2008

- 9:30 a.m. **H.669 as passed Senate - Vermont Historic Downtowns with Brownfields amendments**
 Jim Saudade, Deputy Sec., Agency of Commerce and Community Affairs
 Matt Chapman, Attorney, Agency of Natural Resources
 George Pratt, VT Petroleum Association
- 1:00 p.m. **Floor Convenes**

HOUSE FISH, WILDLIFE & WATER RESOURCES

Tuesday, April 8, 2008

- 10:00AM **FLOOR**
- 1:00PM **CAUCUS**

Wednesday, April 9, 2008

- 9:00AM-11:00AM **S.311 The Use Value Appraisal Program**
 Room 10
 Rep. Alison Clarkson, House Committee on Judiciary
 Sam Burr, Legislative Counsel
 Deb Brighton, Consultant
 Jonathan Wood, Commissioner, Dept. of Forests, Parks & Rec.

11:15AM **S.304 A Groundwater Withdrawal Permit Program**
 Kirt Mayland, Director, Eastern Water Project, Trout Unlimited

1:00PM **FLOOR**

2:30PM **S.304**
 John Hasen, General Counsel, Natural Resources Board

Thursday, April 10, 2008

8:30-10:30AM **S.311 'Use Value Appraisal'**
 ROOM 11
 Ed Larson, Larson Forest & Legislative Services (9:00AM)

10:45AM **S. 304 'Groundwater'**
 Hugo Liepmann, Water 1st! (11:00AM)

1:00PM **FLOOR**

2:30PM **S.304**
 Jeff Nelson, Hydrogeologist, VHB Pioneer Environmental
 Assoc.
 Craig Heindel, Hydrogeologist, Heindel & Noyes

Friday, April 11, 2008

8:30AM **S.311 'Use Value Appraisal'**

9:30AM **FLOOR**

1:00PM **S.304 'Groundwater'**

HOUSE GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Thursday, April 10, 2008

2:30 pm **S. 107- Ancient Roads**
 Joint Hearing with H. Transportation, Room10

HOUSE NATURAL RESOURCES & ENERGY

Tuesday, April 8, 2008

10:00AM **Floor**

11:00AM **Committee Discussion**
 *S.364 A Comprehensive Vertical Audit and Reliability Assessment of the
Vermont Yankee Nuclear Facility*
 Dept. of Public Service

1:00PM **Caucus**

2:30PM **Committee Discussion**
S.364

Wednesday, April 9, 2008

9:00AM **S.364**

1:00PM **FLOOR**

2:00PM **S.364**

Dept. of Public Service

Ed Anthes, Nuclear Free Vermont (3:00PM)

Thursday, April 10, 2008

9:00AM **S.350 Energy Independence and Economic Prosperity**

Dept. of Public Service

HOUSE WAYS & MEANS

Tuesday, April 8, 2008

9:00 am **TIF, Committee Discussion**

10:00 am **House Convenes**

Wednesday, April 9, 2008

8:30 am **TIFs**

Sandy Miller, Town Manager, Milton
Burlington

Rep Minter, Waterbury

Michael O'Brien, Mayor, Winooski

Karen Horn, Vt League of Cities & Towns

Susan Mesner, Tax Dept

Fred Kenney, Exec Dir, Vt Economic Progress Council

Kavet?

Hoffer?

Paul Giuliani, Bond Counsel

SENATE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, HOUSING & GENERAL AFFAIRS

Tuesday, April 8, 2008

9:30 **Senate Floor Convenes**

a.m.

10:30 | H.863 - Creation and Preservation of Affordable Housing and Smart

a.m. **Growth Development**
As Passed the House

|| | Greg Brown, Executive Director, Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission

|| | Victor Fecteau, Fecteau Homes, Montpelier

|| | Jimmy Fecteau, Fecteau Homes, Montpelier

|| | Danny Fecteau, Fecteau Homes, Montpelier

12:00 **Senate Caucus**

p.m.

Wednesday, April 9, 2008

8:30 **H.306 - Telemarketing**
a.m. *Committee Discussion; Possible Vote*

George Thomas, Esq., Vertrue, Inc. (Internet Marketing Services Company), Norwalk, CT

Chuck Storrow, AT & T

8:45 **Refund Anticipation Loans**
a.m. *Committee Discussion; Incorporate into H.306?*

Tom Candon, Deputy Commissioner of Insurance, Dept. of BISHCA

Sam Burr, Legislative Counsel

9:00 **H.885 - Developing Consistent Measurement Standards for Economic**
a.m. **Growth; Next Generation; Adult Education Amendment; Farm**
Education Amendment
Possible Vote

Rep. Michele Kupersmith, Reporter of the Bill

Jay Kenlan, Partner, Kenlan Schwiebert Facey & Goss, P.C., Rutland

Andy Condon, Economic and Labor Market Information Chief,
Department of Labor

Sen. Sara Kittell, Franklin County

9:45 **H.863 - Creation and Preservation of Affordable Housing and Smart**
a.m. **Growth Development**
Update on the efforts to reach a concensus between the major stakeholders

| | Adam Necrason, VT Forum on Sprawl

| | Dawn Francis, Lake Champlain Regional Chamber of Commerce

10:45 **H.863 - Creation and Preservation of Affordable Housing and Smart**
a.m. **Growth Development**
Proposed Amendment to Section 5

|| | Rep. Dave Sharpe

11:00 **H.352 - Reducing Lead Hazards in Housing**
a.m. *As Passed the House; Section 21*

Phil Keller, Director of Rates & Forms, Division of Insurance, BISHCA

Peter Tucker, Government Affairs Committee Chair, Vermont Association

of Realtors; Tucker Real Estate, Stowe
Andy Mikell, VT Bar Association (tentative)

1:30 **Senate Floor Convenes**
p.m.

Thursday, April 10, 2008

8:30 **S.369 - Recognition of Tribes and Bands of Native Americans by the**
a.m. **Vermont Commission on Native American Affairs**
Proposed Amendments; Committee Discussion

Jeremy Hoff, Legislative Counsel

9:00 **Payroll Deduction for the Purchase of Uniforms**
a.m.

JoAnn Bissonette, Colchester

Pat Moulton Powden, Commissioner, Dept. of Labor

VT State Employees Association (tentative)

Serena Chaudhry, Executive Director, VT Peace & Justice Center, 863-2345 (tentative)

9:30 **H.641 - Nursing Mothers in the Workplace**
a.m. *Proposed Amendment from Robert Appel*

Rep. Virginia McCormack, Reporter for House Human Services
Committee

Margaret O'Toole, CVMC RN, International Board Certified Lactation
Consultant (IBCLC), Lamaze Certified Childbirth Educator, Certified
Doula, Montpelier, 223-3050

Heather Chase, President, Corporate Lactation Services, Inc., Chester, 875-5683

Chris Finley, Deputy Commissioner, Dept. of Health, 863-7280

Karen Flynn, WIC Program Administrator, Dept. of Health

Kirsten Berggren, Ph.D. (Anatomy and Neuroscience), Mother, Lactation
Consultant, Author: Working without Weaning, Creator of
WorkandPump.com, Member, Breastfeeding Network, Burlington

Wendy Love, Executive Director, VT Commission on Women, 828-2840

Sandi Everett, Director of the Civil Rights Unit, Office of the Attorney
General

Andrea Cohen, Public Policy Coordinator, VT Business for Social
Responsibility, 862-8347

Tasha Wallis, Executive Director, VT Retail Association, 879-6999

10:30 **H.776 - Computation of the Basic Needs Budget and the Livable Wage**
a.m. *Introduction of Bill; Competing Proposal from Vermont State Chamber*

Ellen Kahler, Executive Director, VT Sustainable Jobs Fund

Michael Belyea, Vermont Chamber of Commerce

Sara Teachout, Joint Fiscal Office

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

Friday, April 11, 2008

8:30 **H.331 - Financing the Purchase of Mobile Homes**
a.m. *Committee Discussion; Possible Vote*

Tom Candon, Deputy Commissioner of Insurance, BISHCA
John Hall, Commissioner, Dept. of Housing & Community Affairs
Arthur Hamlin, Housing Program Coordinator, Dept. of Housing &
Community Affairs
Chris D'elia, Vermont Bankers Association

9:00 **H.332 - Sale and Closure of Mobile Home Parks**
a.m. *Committee Discussion; Possible Vote*

John Hall, Commissioner, Dept. of Housing & Community Affairs
Arthur Hamlin, Housing Program Coordinator, Dept. of Housing &
Community Affairs
Stuart Bennett, Director, VT Apartment Owners Association, Shelburne
Erhard Mahnke, Executive Director, VT Affordable Housing Coalition

9:30 **H.709 - Campgrounds; Exemption from Landlord - Tenant Law;**
a.m. **Unlawful Trespass**
Committee Discussion

Rep. Bill Botzow, Sponsor of the Bill
Rep. Kurt Wright, Reporter of the Bill
Maurice Barnes, President, VT Campgrounds Association (tentative)
Ed Shea, Bennington
Mary & Gary Lunderville, Moose River Campground, St. Johnsbury
(tentative)

10:00 **H.664 - Unemployment Insurance**
a.m. *Committee Discussion; Possible Vote*

Dirk Anderson, Department of Labor
Kim Coe, Director of Residential Programs, Lund Family Center
(tentative)

10:30 **H.353 - Employee Free Choice for Bargaining Representative; 75% In;**
a.m. **75% Out**
Proposed Amendment

Tim Noonan, Executive Director, VT Labor Relations Board

11:00 **Vermont Labor Relations Board Confirmations**
a.m.

Leornard J. Berliner, Quechee
James J. Dunn, Esq., South Burlington
James Kiehle, Brattleboro

Richard W. Park, Member, Vermont League of Cities & Towns,
Montpelier

11:30 **Senate Floor Convenes**

a.m.

Contact: Theresa Utton-Jerman 828-2971 or tutton@leg.state.vt.us

SENATE FINANCE

Tuesday, April 8, 2008

1:30 **H.775 Low-Profit Limited Liability Companies**

p.m.

- **H.888 Miscellaneous Tax Amendments - Sec. 21 Capital Gains**
Dan Cunningham, Vermont Entrepreneur
Dawn Francis, Lake Champlain Regional Chamber of Commerce
 - **H.888 Miscellaneous Tax Amendments - Secs. 6 - 8 Education Property Tax Housing; Sec. 26 Unused Income Tax Credits; Sec. 28 Tax Expenditures**
Sarah Carpenter, Director, Vermont Housing Finance Agency
 - **H.888 Miscellaneous Tax Amendments - Secs. 17, 18 Property Tax Adjustments**
Irv Thomae, Norwich
 - **H.888 Miscellaneous Tax Amendments - Secs. 19, 20 Property Tax Adjustment**
John Cushing, Treasurer, Milton
 - **H.888 Miscellaneous Tax Amendments - Sec. 36 CLA After Townwide Reappraisal**
 - **H.888 Miscellaneous Tax Amendments - Review Bill**
Sara Teachout, Joint Fiscal Office
Susan Mesner, Economist, Department of Taxes
- 3:15 **H.888 Miscellaneous Tax Amendments - Proposed Amendments**
p.m.
- Richard Sears, Senator, Bennington County
John Campbell, Senator, Windsor County
Rick Hube, Representative, South Londonderry

Karen Lafayette, Lobbyist, City of Burlington
Sanford Miller, Town Manager, Town of Milton
Michael O'Brien, Mayor, Winooski
Jonathan Siegel, President, Ice Center, Washington West, Waterbury
Peg Elmer, Associate Director, Land Use Institute, Vermont Law School
(4:30 p.m.) IMPACT FEES
Michael Munson, Planning Consultant, Executive Committee; Vermont
Planners Association (4:45 p.m.) IMPACT FEES
Karen Horn, Vermont League of Cities and Towns
Bill Talbott, Chief Financial Officer, Department of Education

Wednesday, April 9, 2008

- **H.881 Role of Electric and Gas Utilities in Facilitating the Deployment of Communications Facilities throughout the State**
Senate convenes at 1:30 p.m.; Finance Committee convenes when Senate adjourns

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES & ENERGY

Tuesday, April 8, 2008

- 11:00 am **Discussion of Various Bills**
15 minutes after Floor (if there is time)

Wednesday, April 9, 2008

- 9:00 am **H. 873- The Clean-Up of Lake Champlain and Other Waters**
Mike Winslow, Lake Champlain Committee
Bill Bartlett
Buzz Hoerr, VT Citizens Advisory Committee
Dawn Francis, Lake Champlain Regional Chamber of Commerce
Paul Maddon, Friends of Missisquoi Bay
- 10:15 am **Break**
- 10:30 am **H. 873- Committee Discussion- Composting**
Mike O'Grady, Leg. Counsel

Thursday, April 10, 2008

- 9:00 am **H. 873 The Clean-Up of Lake Champlain and Other Waters**
Bill Howland, Lake Champlain Basin Program
Jon Groveman, VT Natural Resource Council
- 10:00 am **H. 873- Composting Issues**
John Hasen, VT Natural Resources Board

John Brabant

Judy Dow

Friday, April 11, 2008

9:00 am **H. 558- Waste Facility Franchise Tax Exemption for Mining Waste**

Jim Hamilton, OMYA

Matt Levin, Vermonters for a Clean Environment

Links to VPA's bills of interest:

As passed House:

H.863 AN ACT RELATING TO CREATION AND PRESERVATION OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND SMART GROWTH DEVELOPMENT [In Senate Economic Development & Housing Committee]

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

H.669 Downtown Program designation renewals 3yrs to 5yrs - passed House – passed Senate with Brownfields amendments

<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/docs/2008/calendar/SC080403.htm>

Pending:

S.304 Groundwater protection; groundwater withdrawal : As passed Senate

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

H.685 Environmental Enforcement Bill : In Senate Nat Res & Energy

<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/WorkGroups/FishWild/230834.pdf>

Ordered to Lie (tabled):

H.549 Riparian Buffer bill - [in House Fish, Water & Wildlife Committee]

<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/docs/legdoc.cfm?URL=/docs/2008/calendar/hc080326.htm>

As introduced – but not making ‘crossover’ :

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

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

S.268 – Act 250 Criterion 9B - SNR&E

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

S.287 -State planning coordination bill - SNR&E

<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 -SNR&E

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

S.317 – Chapter 117 Technical Corrections SNR&E

<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 -SEDH&GA

<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 - HNR&E

<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 – HGov Ops

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

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

<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 - HNR&E

<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 - HNR&E

<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 -H Ways+Means

<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. - **In House Judiciary**

<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 - In H F,W&WR

<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 - In H F,W&WR

<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 – HGov Ops

<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/docs/legdoc.cfm?URL=/docs/2008/bills/intro/H-792.htm>

H.821 TAX INCENTIVE FINANCING OF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION -H Ways+Means

<http://www.leg.state.vt.us/docs/legdoc.cfm?URL=/docs/2008/bills/intro/H-821.htm>

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