

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

January 6, 2017

Issue 1

ejc Consulting
6147 VT RTE 116, Starksboro, VT 05487
ejcconsultingvt@gmail.com
802 233 9563

WELCOME

Welcome to *ejc consulting* Legislative Update.

I will be providing updates on a weekly basis to allow you to keep up with the happenings in Montpelier. Some weeks will be livelier than others. My goal is to provide you with the information and insight and opportunity for you to become involved in the legislative process.

If at any time during the session you need or would like more information or guidance please contact me.

Hope you find this useful

**jane*

WEEK 1

The first week of the legislative session brings many changes. Vermont has a new Governor Phil Scott, new Lt. Governor David Zuckerman, new Speaker of the House Mitzi Johnson, new President Pro Tem of the Senate Tim Ashe and many new faces in both the House and Senate. With this there is also excitement and energy for collaboration, focus on the economy and moving Vermont forward. Time will tell.

JURISDCITION OF COMMITTEES

The Speaker of the House made significant changes in the committee makeup and duties of certain standing committees.

The **House Agriculture and Forest Products** committee now will become the **House Agriculture and Forestry** committee. The duties of this committee will now include state parks and land and will work on rural development. Carolyn Partridge is still chair of this committee. Members include:

Richard Lawrence Vice Chair

John Bartholomew

Mark Higley (new)
Tom Bock (new)
Susan Buckholz (new)
Jay Hopper (new)
Rodney Graham
Harvey Smith
Amy Sheldon (new) one vacancy

The **House Natural Resources and Energy** committee duties will be divided between the **Energy and Technology** committee and the **Natural Resources, Fish and Wildlife** committee. **Energy and Technology** will focus on energy and energy siting and on broadband. Steve Carr is the new chair of **Energy and Technology**.

Members include:

Curt McCormack
Mike Yantachka
Robin Chesnut-Tangerman
Laura Sibia
Cory Parent
Robert Forguites
Warren Van Wyck

The **Natural Resources, Fish and Wildlife** will focus on conservation and land development, land use, land resources, air quality, environmental permitting and climate change. This committee has very broad reach. David Deen will still be chair of this committee.

Members include:

Mary Sullivan (new)
Steve Beyor
Carol Ode (new)
Jim McCullough
Paul Lefebvre
Tom Terenzini
David Ainsworth (new)
Trevor Squirrel (new)

MINMUM WAGE

Vermont's minimum wage has increased from \$9.60 to \$10.00 per hour in accordance with legislation passed by the Vermont legislature and signed by Governor Shumlin in June 2014. Vermont's minimum wage will increase in January 2018 to \$10.50, and statutory provisions to track the CPI-U inflation rate are set to resume in 2019. The Legislature is expected to discuss further increases to the minimum wage (possibly as high as \$15 per hour) this biennium. There is no exemption from this for agricultural workers.

BILLS

As of today there have been 15 bills introduced. This number will increase greatly over the next few weeks. Below is the link to the Vermont Legislative website

<http://legislature.vermont.gov/>

SECRETARY AND COMMISSIONERS

Anson Tebbetts, Secretary of Agriculture

Alyson Eastman, Deputy Secretary of Agriculture

Julie Moore, Secretary of Natural Resources

Louis Porter, Commissioner Fish and Wildlife

Ted Brady, Deputy Secretary of the Agency of Commerce and Community Development

Kaj Sansom, Tax Commissioner

Other House Committees

Appropriations

Rep. Catherine Toll, Chair
Rep. Peter J. Fagan, Vice Chair
Rep. Kathleen C. Keenan, Ranking Member
Rep. Maureen Dakin
Rep. Martha Feltus
Rep. Robert Helm
Rep. Mary S. Hooper
Rep. Bernard Juskiewicz
Rep. Diane Lanpher
Rep. Matthew Trieber, Clerk
Rep. David Yacovone
Theresa Utton-Jerman, Staff Associate
Maria Belliveau, Associate Fiscal Officer

Commerce & Economic Development

Rep. William Botzow II, Chair
Rep. Michael Marcotte, Vice Chair
Rep. Jean O'Sullivan, Ranking Member
Rep. Bob Frenier
Rep. Matt Hill
Rep. Charlie Kimbell
Rep. Patricia McCoy
Rep. Linda K. Myers
Rep. Paul N. Poirier
Rep. Valerie A. Stuart
Rep. Linda Sullivan
Liz Raddock, Committee Assistant

Corrections & Institutions

Rep. Alice M. Emmons, Chair
Rep. Butch Shaw, Vice Chair
Rep. Terence Macaig, Ranking Member
Rep. Lynn Batchelor
Rep. Paul Belaski
Rep. Daniel Connor
Rep. Marcia Martel
Rep. Mary A. Morrissey
Rep. Robin Scheu, Clerk
Rep. Curt Taylor
Rep. Donald Turner Jr.
Rebecca Baruzzi, Committee Assistant

Education

Rep. David Sharpe, Chair
Rep. Albert Pearce, Vice Chair
Rep. Kathryn Webb, Ranking Member
Rep. Scott Beck
Rep. Peter Conlon
Rep. Lawrence Cupoli
Rep. Dylan Giambatista
Rep. Adam Greshin
Rep. Ben W. Joseph
Rep. Emily Long
Rep. Alice Miller

General, Housing & Military Affairs

Rep. Helen Head, Chair
Rep. Thomas Stevens, Vice Chair
Rep. Job Tate, Ranking Member
Rep. Kevin Christie
Rep. Rachael Fields
Rep. Diana Gonzalez
Rep. Mary E. Howard
Rep. Heidi E. Scheuermann
Rep. Brian Smith
Rep. Vicki Strong
Rep. Tommy Walz
Ron Wild, Committee Assistant

Government Operations

Rep. Maida Townsend, Chair
Rep. Ronald E. Hubert, Vice Chair
Rep. Warren F. Kitzmiller, Ranking Member
Rep. Jessica Brumsted
Rep. Dennis J. Devereux
Rep. John Gannon
Rep. Marcia Gardner
Rep. Robert LaClair
Rep. Patti J. Lewis
Rep. Tristan Toleno

Rep. Cindy Weed
Denise Diehl, Committee Assistant

Health Care

Rep. William J. Lippert Jr., Chair
Rep. Anne B. Donahue, Vice Chair
Rep. Timothy Briglin, Ranking Member
Rep. Annmarie Christensen
Rep. Brian Cina
Rep. Sarah Copeland-Hanzas
Rep. Betsy Dunn
Rep. Douglas Gage
Rep. Michael Hebert
Rep. Lori Houghton
Rep. Ben Jickling
Loring Starr, Committee Assistant

Human Services

Rep. Ann Pugh, Chair
Rep. Sandy Haas, Vice Chair
Rep. Francis McFaun, Ranking Member
Rep. Marianna Gamache
Rep. Brian Keefe
Rep. Michael Mrowicki
Rep. Daniel Noyes
Rep. Oliver Olsen
Rep. Carl Rosenquist
Rep. Joseph Troiano
Rep. Theresa Wood
Julie Tucker, Committee Assistant

Judiciary

Rep. Maxine Grad, Chair
Rep. Charles Conquest, Vice Chair
Rep. Thomas Burditt, Ranking Member
Rep. Selene Colburn
Rep. Eileen Dickinson
Rep. Kimberly Jessup
Rep. Martin LaLonde
Rep. Ruqaiyah Morris
Rep. Barbara Rachelson
Rep. Gary Viens
Rep. Janssen Willhoit
Shannyn Morse, Committee Assistant

Transportation

Rep. Patrick Brennan, Chair
Rep. David Potter, Vice Chair
Rep. Timothy R. Corcoran II, Ranking Member
Rep. Robert Bancroft
Rep. Clement Bissonnette

Rep. Mollie S. Burke
Rep. Jill Krowinski
Rep. Barbara Murphy
Rep. Gary Nolan
Rep. Constance Quimby
Rep. Brian K. Savage
Barbara Dall, Committee Assistant

Ways & Means

Rep. Janet Ancel, Chair
Rep. Samuel Young, Vice Chair
Rep. William Canfield, Ranking Member
Rep. Fred Baser
Rep. Cynthia Browning
Rep. James Condon
Rep. Johannah Donovan
Rep. Gabrielle Lucke, Clerk
Rep. James Masland
Rep. George W. Till
Rep. Kurt Wright
Sorsha Anderson, Committee Assistant

ejc Consulting

A Legislative Concierge Service

Providing Information, Education and Communication

- A weekly newsletter of legislative happenings
- Monitor bills and committee meetings
- Legislative Issue Alerts
- Schedule meetings with legislators and regulatory leaders
- Facilitate meetings with other organizations
- Assist in developing and recommending strategies to move your issues forward

- Provide training sessions to help you maneuver the legislative process
- An annual “Day at the Statehouse”

Coming together is a beginning, keeping together is progress, staying together is success”

– Henry Ford
