

Sec. 20. 29 V.S.A. § 166 is amended to read:

§ 166. SELLING OR RENTING STATE PROPERTY

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(b)(1) Upon authorization by the General Assembly, which may be granted by resolution, and with the advice and consent of the Governor, the Commissioner of Buildings and General Services may sell real estate owned by the State. ~~Such~~ The property shall be sold to the highest bidder ~~therefor~~ at public auction or upon sealed bids ~~in~~ at the discretion of the Commissioner of Buildings and General Services, who may reject any or all bids, or the Commissioner is authorized to list the sale of property with a real estate agent licensed by the State. In no event shall the property be sold for less than fair market value as determined by the Commissioner in consultation with an independent real estate broker or appraiser, or both, retained by the Commissioner, unless otherwise authorized by the General Assembly.

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Sec. 21. STATE BUILDING NAMING; STUDY COMMITTEE; REPORT

(a) Creation. There is created the State Building Naming Study Committee to develop a proposed process for naming State buildings that are under the jurisdiction of the Department of Buildings and General Services.

(b) Membership. The Committee shall be composed of the following members:

(1) the State Historic Preservation Officer or designee;

(2) the Secretary of Commerce and Community Development or designee;

(3) the Commissioner of Buildings and General Services or designee;

(4) the Executive Director of the Vermont Historical Society or designee;

(5) the State Librarian or designee;

(6) the Executive Director of the Vermont League of Cities and Towns or designee;

(7) the Executive Director of the Office of Racial Equity or designee;

and

(8) the Executive Secretary of the Transportation Board or designee.

(c) Powers and duties.

(1) The Committee shall develop a proposed process for naming State buildings that are under the jurisdiction of the Department of Buildings and General Services. The proposed process developed by the Committee shall address the following:

(A) an entity within State government, other than the General Assembly, that should have authority for naming State buildings that are under the jurisdiction of the Department of Buildings and General Services;

(B) entities and individuals who should be involved in determining whether to name specific State buildings that are under the jurisdiction of the Department of Buildings and General Services;

(C) methods by which a municipality or the general public may petition to name a State building under the jurisdiction of the Department of Buildings and General Services after a specific person;

(D) any requirements for a historical nexus between the building proposed to be named and the person for whom it is proposed to be named; and

(E) the process for considering a petition to name a State building, including requirements related to public notice, conduct of hearings, and standards for rendering a decision on a petition.

(2) In carrying out its duties pursuant to subdivision (1) of this section, the Committee shall hold not fewer than three meetings and shall solicit testimony from stakeholders and interested parties.

(d) Report. On or before February 15, 2025, the Committee shall report to the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions and the Senate Committee on Institutions regarding its proposal and any recommendations for legislative action.

(e) Meetings.

(1) The State Historic Preservation Officer shall call the first meeting of the Committee to occur on or before September 1, 2024.

(2) The Committee shall select a chair from among its members at the first meeting.

(3) A majority of the membership shall constitute a quorum.

(4) The Committee shall cease to exist on February 28, 2025.

Sec. 22. SOUTHEAST STATE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY; POTENTIAL
LAND TRANSFER; REPORT

(a) The Department of Fish and Wildlife, in consultation with the Department of Buildings and General Services, shall evaluate the potential transfer of a portion of the former Southeast State Correctional Facility property to the Department of Fish and Wildlife for inclusion in the adjacent wildlife management area. The evaluation shall:

(1) delineate the portions of the former Southeast State Correctional Facility property that could be used for future redevelopment of the site, taking into account any necessary setbacks from wetlands, streams, or wildlife habitat;

(2) identify any portions of the property that could be transferred into the adjacent wildlife management area and potential impacts on the redevelopment or sale of the property from the transfer of the identified portions; and

(3) identify any rights of way or easements that will be necessary for the potential future redevelopment of any retained portion of the property.

(b) On or before January 15, 2025, the Commissioner of Fish and Wildlife and the Commissioner of Buildings and General Services shall report to the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions and the Senate Committee