

1 H.140

2 Introduced by Representatives Consejo of Sheldon, Atkins of Winooski,
3 Branagan of Georgia, Christie of Hartford, Condon of
4 Colchester, Gilbert of Fairfax, Howrigan of Fairfield, Martin of
5 Springfield, Mrowicki of Putney, Pearce of Richford, Poirier of
6 Barre City, Savage of Swanton, Shand of Weathersfield, South
7 of St. Johnsbury, Spengler of Colchester, Stevens of Shoreham
8 and Wilson of Manchester

9 Referred to Committee on

10 Date:

11 Subject: General provisions; state sport; snowboarding

12 Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to designate snowboarding as the
13 official state sport of Vermont.

14 An act relating to designating snowboarding as the official sport of the state
15 of Vermont

16 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

17 Sec. 1. FINDINGS

18 In recognition of the importance that sports can play in the personal lives of
19 Vermonters and in the economic well-being of the state, the general assembly
20 finds:

1 (1) Because of Vermonter Jake Burton Carpenter, Vermont is widely
2 considered the birthplace of snowboarding, a sport in which hundreds of
3 thousands of children and adults participate as a healthy and challenging
4 activity at mountains in Vermont and worldwide, and in 2007, Jake and Donna
5 Burton Carpenter were inducted into the U.S. National Ski and Snowboarding
6 Hall of Fame.

7 (2) Stratton Mountain is known as the specific Vermont location where
8 snowboarding was born, and for 27 years it has hosted the U.S. Open
9 snowboarding event, a longevity record for the sport.

10 (3) The Stratton Snowboard School is the first snowboarding school
11 ever established and is widely recognized as the best in the world.

12 (4) Vermont was the first state in the nation to host a snowboard park at
13 the Sonnenburg ski hill in Barnard.

14 (5) In 1982, Suicide Six in Pomfret became the first ski resort to allow
15 snowboarding, and it was also the site, that same year, of the first international
16 snowboarding race.

17 (6) Vermont is home to Burlington-based Burton Snowboards, the
18 world's first snowboard factory and the leading manufacturer, as well as Rome
19 Snowboard Design Syndicate of Waterbury, the fourth largest producer of
20 snowboards in the United States.

1 (7) Many of the country's best snowboarders come from Vermont.
2 These include Kelly Clark from Burlington, the first American to win an
3 Olympic snowboarding gold medal in 2002 and a 2010 Olympic silver medal
4 winner; Lindsey Jacobellis from Stratton, a member of the 2010 U.S. Olympic
5 team; Ross Powers from Peru, the 2002 Olympic halfpipe gold medal winner;
6 and Hannah Teter from Belmont, the 2006 Olympic halfpipe gold medal
7 winner and the U.S. Olympic Committee's 2006 Sportswoman of the Year.

8 (8) Bud Keene of Stowe was named the 2003 and 2006 USSA
9 International Snowboard Coach of the Year and the 2006 U.S. Olympic
10 Committee National Coach of the Year.

11 (9) In an era of increased childhood obesity, the promotion of
12 snowboarding will increase youth exercise.

13 (10) No state has promoted snowboarding as its state sport, and
14 designating it as the Vermont state sport will bring many benefits to the
15 Vermont economy, including paying visitors to snowboarding sites,
16 manufacturers' sales, and new revenue for the hospitality industry.

17 Sec. 2. 1 V.S.A. § 516 is added to read.

18 § 516. STATE SPORT

19 The state sport shall be snowboarding.

20 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

21 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2011.