

1 H.591

2 Introduced by Representative Squirrell of Underhill

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Public safety; corrections; funding

6 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to authorize the
7 Joint Fiscal Office, in collaboration with the Coordinated Justice Reform
8 Advisory Council and others, to examine the fees and fines that support public
9 safety and correctional programs to inform future legislative and fiscal
10 initiatives that support such programs.

11 An act relating to an examination of State funding that supports public
12 safety and correctional programs

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

14 Sec. 1. PUBLIC SAFETY; CORRECTIONS; FUNDING; EXAMINATION

15 (a) Intent. It is the intent of the General Assembly to determine which
16 State programs are supported by fees and fines so that the Coordinated Justice
17 Reform Advisory Council has the necessary information to consider proposing
18 future legislation that shifts any identified fines and fees to the General Fund,
19 moves program support from special funds to the General Fund, and

1 establishes the base amount of General Fund dollars needed to support an
2 identified program.

3 (b) Examination. The Joint Fiscal Office, in collaboration with the
4 Coordinated Justice Reform Advisory Council and other stakeholders, shall
5 examine the fees and fines collected from State services that are used to
6 support programs that improve public safety; reduce correctional and criminal
7 justice spending; decrease crime, delinquencies, and recidivism; and support
8 victims of crime.

9 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

10 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.