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H.837

SHORT FORM

Introduced by Representatives Bos-Lun of Westminster, LaLonde of South
Burlington, Arrison of Weathersfield, Casey of Montpelier,
Headrick of Burlington, Rachelson of Burlington, and Troiano
of Stannard

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Crimes; criminal procedure; sentencing alternative; community
service

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to equalize the
community service hours a person convicted of an offense is required to
complete with the number of hours of imprisonment required for the same
offense. The bill would contain a findings section that would state that
aligning these time requirements is consistent with the State's Restorative
Justice policy established pursuant to 28 V.S.A. § 2a because it would
encourage more people to elect community service over incarceration for
offenses where community service exists as a sentencing alternative. The
bill's findings section would also reference the latest Department of
Corrections' figures for persons residing at Vermont correctional facilities as

1 the starting measure of any reduction that the bill's initiative may have on the
2 number the persons incarcerated in Vermont.

3 An act relating to equalizing community service and incarceration
4 requirements for offenses that permit such sentencing alternatives

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

6 (TEXT OMITTED IN SHORT-FORM BILLS)