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H.247

SHORT FORM

Introduced by Representatives Rachelson of Burlington and Christie of
Hartford

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Legislature; Legislative Counsel; racial impact statements

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require that, at the request of the committee to which a bill, resolution, or amendment is referred, the Office of Legislative Counsel prepare a racial impact statement for each proposed bill, resolution, or amendment that impacts pretrial detention, sentencing, probation, or parole, or establishes a new crime or modifies an existing crime or the penalties associated with a crime. The racial impact statements shall include: 1) an assessment of the potential impact of the proposed legislation on racial and ethnic minorities, including whether it is likely to have a disproportionate or unique impact on the racial and ethnic communities in the State and the rationale for the impact; 2) a statistical analysis of how the legislation would affect racial and ethnic minorities; 3) the impact of the legislation on correctional facilities; 4) the anticipated effect of the legislation on public safety in racial and ethnic communities in the State; and 5) an estimate of the number of criminal cases per year that the legislation

1 would affect. The bill also proposes to require that the sponsor of the
2 legislation offer an amendment to the bill if the General Assembly finds that
3 proposed legislation has a disparate impact on members of racial minority
4 groups.

5 An act relating to racial impact statements

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

7 (TEXT OMITTED IN SHORT-FORM BILLS)