

1 H.553

2 Introduced by Representative Sullivan of Dorset

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Corrections; supervision of inmates; discrimination; programming

6 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require the

7 Commissioner of Corrections to provide equal access to corrections

8 programming.

9 An act relating to equal access to corrections programming

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

11 Sec. 1. 28 V.S.A. § 820 is added to read:

12 § 820. EQUAL ACCESS TO PROGRAMMING.

13 (a)(1) Each person under the custody or supervision of the Commissioner
14 shall have equal access to programming without regard to gender or sexual
15 orientation.

16 (2) The Commissioner shall not deny a contract or grant award to any
17 third-party provider of programming on the basis, in whole or in part, that the
18 provider offers its programming to persons without regard to their gender or
19 sexual orientation.

1 (b) As used in this section, “programming” means any educational and
2 rehabilitative offerings, transitional housing, vocational training, and any other
3 course or study programs made available to persons under the custody or
4 supervision of the Commissioner.

5 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

6 This act shall take effect on passage.