Short Side-by-Side Comparison of S.123:
As Proposed by Senate Conferees and as Passed by House

Section Sen/Hse	As Proposed by Senate Conferees	As Passed House	Notes
1	Same	Same	• Same
2	Same	Same	• Same
3	Same	Same	• Same
4	Same	Same	• Same
5	Same	Same	• Same
6	Same	Same	• Same
7	Same	Same	• Same
8	23 V.S.A. § 608 is amended to read: § 608. FEES * * * (b) An additional fee of $4.00 per year shall be paid for a motorcycle endorsement. The endorsement may be obtained for either a two-year or four-year period, to be coincidental with the length of the operator's license. (c)(1) Individuals under 23 years of age who were in the care and custody of the Commissioner for Children and Families pursuant to 33 V.S.A. § 4903(4) in Vermont after attaining 14 years of age shall be provided with operator's licenses or operator privilege cards at no charge. (2) No additional fee shall be due for a motorcycle endorsement for an individual under 23 years of age who was in the care and custody of the Commissioner for Children and Families pursuant to 33 V.S.A. § 4903(4) in Vermont after attaining 14 years of age.	23 V.S.A. § 608 is amended to read: § 608. FEES * * * (b) An additional fee of $4.00 per year shall be paid for a motorcycle endorsement. The endorsement may be obtained for either a two-year or four-year period, to be coincidental with the length of the operator's license. (c)(1) Individuals under 23 years of age who were in the care and custody of the Commissioner for Children and Families pursuant to 33 V.S.A. § 4903(4) in Vermont after attaining 14 years of age shall be provided with operator's licenses or operator privilege cards at no charge. (2) No additional fee shall be due for a motorcycle endorsement for an individual under 23 years of age who was in the care and custody of the Commissioner for Children and Families pursuant to 33 V.S.A. § 4903(4) in Vermont after attaining 14 years of age.	• Same
9/NA	23 V.S.A. § 608 is amended to read: § 608. FEES * * * (d) Individuals receiving Supplemental Security Income or Social Security Disability Income and individuals with a disability as defined in 9 V.S.A. § 4501 shall be provided with operator's licenses or operator privilege cards for the following fees:	N/A	• Senate proposes 1-year delay on reduced license fees for individuals receiving SSI or SSDI benefits

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	(1) Original issuance: $20.00. (2) Renewal every four years: $20.00. (3) Replacement of lost, destroyed, or mutilated card or a new name is required: $10.00.		
10/9	Same	Same	• Same
11/10	Same	Same	• Same
12/11	Same	Same	• Senate accepts House Proposal
13/12	Same	Same	• Same
14/13	Same	Same	• Same
15/14	Same	Same	• Same
16/15	Same	Same	• Same
17/16	§ 115b. EARLY RENEWAL (a) The holder of a nondriver identification card issued under the provisions of section 115 of this chapter may renew the nondriver identification card at any time prior to the expiration of the nondriver identification card. If one or more years remain before the expiration of the nondriver identification card, the Commissioner shall reduce the cost of the renewed nondriver identification card by an amount that is proportionate to the number of years rounded down to the next whole year remaining before the expiration of the nondriver identification card. (b) All application and documentation requirements for the renewal of a nondriver identification card pursuant to section 115 of this chapter shall apply to the early renewal of a nondriver identification card.	§ 115b. EARLY RENEWAL (a) The holder of nondriver identification card issued under the provisions of section 115 of this chapter may renew the nondriver identification card at any time prior to the expiration of the nondriver identification card. If one or more years remain before the expiration of the nondriver identification card, the Commissioner shall reduce the cost of the renewed nondriver identification card by an amount that is proportionate to the number of years rounded down to the next whole year remaining before the expiration of the nondriver identification card. (b) All application and documentation requirements for the renewal of a nondriver identification card pursuant to section 115 of this chapter shall apply to the early renewal of a nondriver identification card.	• Technical correction in Senate Proposal.
18/17	Same	Same	• Senate and House agree to use DMV Proposed Language
19/18	Same	Same	• Senate accepts House Proposal
20/19	Same	Same	• Same
21/20	Same	Same	• Same
22/21	Same	Same	• Same

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23/22	Same	Same	• Same
24/23	Same	Same	• Same
25/24	Same	Same	• Same
26/25	Same	Same	• Same
27/26	Same	Same	• Same
28/27	Same	Same	• Same
29/28	Same	Same	• Same
30/29	Same	Same	• Same
31/30	Same	Same	• Same
32/31	Same	Same	• Same
33/32	Same	Same	• Same
33/NA	Same	Same	• Senate accepts House Proposal
34/33	Same	Same	• Same
35/34	Same	Same	• Same
36/35	Same	Same	• Same
37/36	Same	Same	• Same
38/37	Same	Same	• Same
39/NA	23 V.S.A. § 1125 is amended to read: § 1125. OBSTRUCTING WINDSHIELDS~~,~~ AND WINDOWS (a) Prohibition. Except as otherwise provided in this section, ~~a person~~ an individual shall not operate a motor vehicle on which material or items have been painted or adhered on or over, or hung in back of, any transparent part of a motor vehicle windshield, vent windows, or side windows located immediately to the left and right of the operator. The prohibition of this section on hanging items shall apply ~~only~~ to shading or tinting material or when a hanging item materially obstructs the driver's view. (b) General exemptions. Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, ~~a person~~ an individual may operate a motor vehicle with material or items painted or adhered on	N/A	• Deleted in House version • Senate proposes keeping language

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	or over, or hung in back of, the windshield, vent windows, or side windows: (1) in a space not over four inches high and 12 inches long in the lower right-hand corner of the windshield; (2) in ~~such~~ any space ~~as~~ the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may specify for location of any sticker required by governmental regulation; (3) in a space not over two inches high and two and one-half inches long in the upper left-hand corner of the windshield; (4) if the operator is ~~a person~~ an individual employed by the federal, State, or local government or a volunteer emergency responder operating an authorized emergency vehicle, who places any necessary equipment in back of the windshield of the vehicle, provided the equipment does not interfere with the operator's control of the driving mechanism of the vehicle; (5) on a motor vehicle that is for sale by a licensed automobile dealer prior to the sale of the vehicle, in a space not over three inches high and six inches long in the upper left-hand corner of the windshield, and in a space not over four inches high and 18 inches long in the upper right-hand corner of the windshield; ~~or~~ (6) if the object is a rearview mirror~~,~~ or is an electronic toll-collection transponder located either between the roof line and the rearview mirror post or behind the rearview mirror; or (7) if the object is shading or tinting material and the visible light transmission of the motor vehicle windshield, vent window, or side window with that shading or tinting material is not less than 70 percent.		

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	(c) Medical exemption. The Commissioner may grant an exemption to the prohibition of this section upon application from ~~a person~~ an individual required for medical reasons to be shielded from the rays of the sun and who attaches to the application a document signed by a licensed physician or optometrist certifying that shielding from the rays of the sun is a medical necessity. The physician or optometrist certification shall be renewed every four years. However, when a licensed physician or optometrist has previously certified to the Commissioner that an applicant's condition is both permanent and stable, the exemption may be renewed by the applicant without submission of a form signed by a licensed physician or optometrist. Additionally, the window shading or tinting permitted under this subsection shall be limited to the vent windows or side windows located immediately to the left and right of the operator. The exemption provided in this subsection shall terminate upon the transfer of the approved vehicle and at that time the applicable window tinting shall be removed by the seller. ~~Furthermore, if the material described in this subsection tears or bubbles or is otherwise worn to prohibit clear vision, it shall be removed or replaced.~~ (d) Rear side window obstructions. The rear side windows and the back window may be obstructed only if the motor vehicle is equipped on each side with a securely attached mirror~~, which~~ that provides the operator with a clear view of the roadway in the rear and on both sides of the motor vehicle. (e) Removal. Any shading or tinting material that is painted or adhered on or over, or hung in back of, the windshield, vent windows, or side windows in accordance with subdivision (b)(7) or subsection (c) of this section		

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	shall be removed if it tears, bubbles, or is otherwise worn to prohibit clear vision. (f) Definition. As used in this section, "visible light transmission" means the amount of visible light that can pass through shading, tinting, or glazing material applied to or within the transparent portion of a window or windshield of a motor vehicle.		
40/NA	LEGISLATIVE INTENT; TINTED WINDOWS It is the intent of the General Assembly that a motor vehicle with shading or tinting material that is not allowed under 23 V.S.A. § 1125, as amended by Sec. 39 of this act, poses a danger to the individual operating the motor vehicle, any passengers in the motor vehicle, and other highway users and that such a motor vehicle shall fail the annual safety inspection required under 23 V.S.A. § 1222.	N/A	• Deleted in House version • Senate proposes keeping language
41/NA	RULEMAKING; PERIODIC INSPECTION MANUAL; TINTED WINDOWS; OUTREACH (a) The Department of Motor Vehicles shall, unless extended by the Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules, adopt amendments to Department of Motor Vehicles, Inspection of Motor Vehicles (CVR 14-050-022) consistent with the legislative intent in Sec. 40 of this act to be effective not later than July 1, 2026. The amendments shall include the level of visible light transmission required for windshields and the windows to the immediate right and left of the driver as of the effective date of the amendments. (b) The Department of Motor Vehicles, in consultation with the Department of Public Safety, shall implement a public outreach campaign on window tinting to provide information on the prohibitions and exceptions under 23 V.S.A. § 1125, as amended by Sec. 39 of this act, and the	N/A	• Deleted in House version • Senate proposes keeping language

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	requirements of the Inspection of Motor Vehicles (CVR 14-050-022), with amendments adopted under the Administrative Procedure Act consistent with subsection (a) of this section, including what level of visible light transmission is currently required for windshields and the windows to the immediate right and left of the driver. The Department of Motor Vehicles shall start to disseminate information as required under this subsection not later than two months prior to the effective date of Sec. 39 of this act and shall disseminate information on window tinting through email, bulletins, software updates, and the Department of Motor Vehicles' website.		
42/38	Same	Same	• Same
43/39	Same	Same	• Senate accepts House Proposal
44/40	N/A	23 V.S.A. § 1139 is amended to read: § 1139. RIDING ON ROADWAYS AND BICYCLE PATHS (a) ~~A person~~ Due care and riding on the right. An individual operating a bicycle upon a roadway shall exercise due care when passing a standing vehicle or one proceeding in the same direction. Bicyclists generally shall ride as near to the right side of the improved area of the highway right-of-way as is safe, except that a bicyclist: * * * (b) ~~Persons riding~~ Riding two abreast. Individuals operating bicycles upon a roadway ~~may~~ shall not ride more than two abreast except on paths or parts of roadways set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles or except as otherwise permitted by the Commissioner of Public Safety in connection with a public sporting event in which case the Commissioner shall be authorized to adopt such rules as the public good requires. ~~Persons~~ Individuals riding two abreast shall not impede the normal	• Added by House

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		and reasonable movement of traffic and, on a laned roadway, shall ride within a single lane. (c) Obedience to traffic-control devices and traffic-control signals. An individual operating a bicycle shall follow all traffic-control devices and traffic-control signals governing motor vehicles except that an individual operating a bicycle who is facing a "walk" signal, as defined in section 1023 of this chapter, may make a turn or proceed across the roadway or intersection in the direction of the signal but shall yield the right of way to any vehicles or pedestrians in the roadway or intersection. (d) Riding on a partially controlled access highway. Bicycles may be operated on the shoulders of partially controlled access highways, which are those highways where access is controlled by public authority but where there are some connections with selected public highways, some crossings at grade, and some private driveway connections. The Traffic Committee may determine that any portion of these highways is unsafe and therefore closed to bicycle operation.	
45/41	Same	Same	• Senate accepts House Proposal
46/42	Same	Same	• Senate accepts House Proposal
47/43	N/A	FINDINGS; INTENT; LEGAL TRAILS (a) Findings. The General Assembly finds the following: (1) Outdoor recreation is a significant part of Vermont's identity and economy. (2) Trails provide Vermonters and visitors with access to natural beauty throughout the State and are used for a wide variety of outdoor recreational activities throughout the year. (3) Some trails are also used by Vermonters for travel or to access their homes and properties.	• Added by House

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		(4) The State and municipalities use some trails to provide maintenance to State and municipal lands and facilities, as well as to provide public safety and rescue services. (5) Trails may require regular maintenance to ensure that they remain passable and can continue to support recreation, travel, access, and various public services. (6) While many trails in Vermont have been established through private easements or other agreements, a subset of trails, known as legal trails, lie along public rights-of-way that were once town highways and are governed by the provisions of 19 V.S.A. chapter 3. (b) Intent. It is the intent of the General Assembly to clarify municipalities' authority to exclusively or cooperatively maintain legal trails under the provisions of 19 V.S.A. chapter 3.	
48/44	N/A	19 V.S.A. chapter 3 is amended to read: CHAPTER 3. TOWN HIGHWAYS § 301. DEFINITIONS As used in this chapter: * * * (2) "Legislative body" ~~includes boards of selectmen, aldermen, and village trustees~~ means a legislative body as defined in 24 V.S.A. § 2001. (3) ~~"Selectmen" includes village trustees and aldermen~~ "Selectboard" means a selectboard as defined in 24 V.S.A. § 2001. * * * (8)(A) "Trail" means a public right-of-way that is not a highway and that: (i) municipalities have the authority to exclusively or cooperatively maintain; and	• Identical to language that appeared in Senate version of H.488

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		~~(A)~~(ii)(I) previously was a designated town highway having the same width as the designated town highway, or a lesser width if so designated; or ~~(B)~~(II) a new public right-of-way laid out as a trail by the ~~selectmen~~ legislative body for the purpose of providing access to abutting properties or for recreational use. (B) Nothing in this ~~section~~ subdivision (8) shall be deemed to independently authorize the condemnation of land for recreational purposes or to affect the authority of ~~selectmen~~ legislative bodies to reasonably regulate the uses of recreational trails. § 302. CLASSIFICATION OF TOWN HIGHWAYS (a) For the purposes of this section and receiving State aid, all town highways shall be categorized into one or another of the following classes: * * * (2) Class 2 town highways are those town highways selected as the most important highways in each town. As far as practicable, they shall be selected with the purposes of securing trunk lines of improved highways from town to town and to places that by their nature have more than normal amount of traffic. The ~~selectmen~~ legislative body, with the approval of the Agency, shall determine which highways are to be class 2 highways. (3) Class 3 town highways: (A) Class 3 town highways are all traveled town highways other than class 1 or 2 highways. The ~~selectmen~~ legislative body, after conference with a representative of the Agency, shall determine which highways are class 3 town highways. * * *	

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		(5) Trails shall not be considered highways ~~and the town~~. A municipality shall have the authority to maintain trails but shall not be responsible for any maintenance, including culverts and bridges. * * * § 303. TOWN HIGHWAY CONTROL Town highways shall be under the general supervision and control of the ~~selectmen~~ legislative body of the town where the roads are located. ~~Selectmen~~ The legislative body of a town shall supervise all expenditures. § 304. DUTIES OF SELECTBOARD (a) It shall be the duty and responsibility of the selectboard of the town to, or acting as a board, it shall have the authority to: * * * (16) Unless the town electorate votes otherwise, under the provisions of 17 V.S.A. § 2646, appoint a road commissioner, or remove ~~him or her~~ the road commissioner from office, pursuant to 17 V.S.A. § 2651. Road commissioners, elected or appointed, shall have only the powers and authority regarding highways granted to them by the selectboard. * * * (24) Maintain trails, but shall not be required to maintain trails. * * *	
49/45	EFFECTIVE DATES (a) This section and Secs. 16 and 17 (early renewal of operator's licenses, operator's privilege cards, and nondriver identification) shall take effect on passage. (b) Sections 9 (reduced license fees for individuals receiving SSI or SSDI benefits), and 39 and 40 (motor vehicle window tinting) shall take effect on July 1, 2026.	EFFECTIVE DATES (a) This section and Secs. 15 and 16 (early renewal of operator's licenses, operator's privilege cards, and nondriver identification) shall take effect on passage. (b) The remaining sections shall take effect on July 1, 2025.	• Senate includes delayed effective date for window tinting provisions, which do not appear in House proposal. • House includes effective date on passage for early renewal of license and ID (Senate effective date for those sections is July 1)

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	(c) The remaining sections shall take effect on July 1, 2025.		