TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

The Committee on Health and Welfare to which was referred Senate Bill No. 239 entitled "An act relating to the Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Working Group" respectfully reports that it has considered the same and recommends that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT REPORTING WORKING GROUP

(a) There is created the Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Working Group for the purpose of examining the existing statutes and the Department for Children and Families' rules and policies regarding the reporting of abuse and neglect of a child and recommending changes to such to modernize them and reflect current best practices.

(b) The Working Group shall be composed of the following members:

(1) the Director of the Office of Professional Regulation or designee;

(2) the Executive Director of the Vermont Center for Crime Victim Services or designee;

(3) a co-executive director of the Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence or designee;

(4) the Attorney General or designee;

(5) the Chief Administrative Judge or designee; and

(6) the Commissioner for Children and Families or designee;

(7) the Executive Director of Prevent Child Abuse Vermont or designee; and

(8) the Vermont Child, Youth, and Family Advocate.

(c) The Working Group shall report its findings and any recommended legislative proposal to the General Assembly on or before January 15, 2027.

Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on passage.

(Committee vote: _____)

_____

Senator _____

FOR THE COMMITTEE