



2022 Legislative Session

1/28/2022

H.573 An act relating to prohibiting discrimination based on immunization status.

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/bill/status/2022/H.573>

S.079 ****Vetoed by Governor July 2nd**** This bill proposes to improve rental housing health and safety. ****Amendment adds \$35 annual registration fee per rental unit**

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/bill/status/2022/S.79>

CONSIDERATION POSTPONED UNTIL FEBRUARY 1, 2022

S.113 An act relating to establishing a cause of action for medical monitoring expenses. This bill proposes to establish a cause of action for the remedy of medical monitoring for a person who is exposed to a proven toxic substance. In addition, the bill would provide that a person is liable for abating a release or threatened release of hazardous material and the costs of investigation, removal, and remedial actions incurred by the State if the person manufactured a hazardous material for commercial sale and knew or should have known that the material presented a threat of harm to human health or the natural environment.

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/bill/status/2022/S.113>

S.234 An act relating to changes to Act 250. This bill proposes to make multiple amendments to the State land use and development law, Act 250, including: creating designated smart growth areas that will be exempt from Act 250 and providing grants to municipalities to assist them in achieving this new designation, requiring municipalities to respond to Act 250 requests within 90 days, adding new criteria for forest blocks and connecting habitat, adding a jurisdictional trigger for roads, clarifying permit conditions for wood product manufacturers, clarifying Act 250 jurisdiction in one-acre towns, and creating a committee to study the governance and administration of the Act 250 program.

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/bill/status/2022/S.234>

S.235 An act relating to Act 250 jurisdiction over agricultural businesses. This bill proposes to study the issue of how Act 250 jurisdiction should apply to agricultural businesses.

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/bill/status/2022/S.235>

S.237 An act relating to surface water withdrawals and interbasin transfers. This bill proposes to regulate surface water withdrawals and interbasin transfers of surface water occurring in the State.

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/bill/status/2022/S.237>

S.258 An act relating to amending the Required Agricultural Practices in order to address climate resiliency. This bill proposes to require the Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets to evaluate the sufficiency of the Required Agricultural Practices (RAPs) to determine if the requirements and practices under the RAPs are adequate to address increased and foreseeable climate change-induced precipitation in a manner that protects soil resources and prevents harmful or inefficient runoff of nutrient pollution to State waters.

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/bill/status/2022/S.258>

S.259 An act relating to the reorganization, enhancement, and enforcement of animal welfare requirements in the State. This bill proposes to require the Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets to submit to the General Assembly a report regarding the reorganization, enhancement, and enforcement of animal welfare requirements in the State, including the establishment of an animal welfare division at the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets.

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/bill/status/2022/S.259>

S.263 An act relating to supporting economic development. This bill proposes to encourage new workers to relocate to Vermont, to provide flexibility for Economic Recovery grants, to increase the capacity for the Capital Investment Program, to enable project-based tax increment financing districts, and to promote sustainable development and affordable housing.

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/bill/status/2022/S.263>

S.268 An act relating to the right to farm. This bill proposes to amend the right-to-farm law to provide that a farm or farm operation shall not be found to be a public or private nuisance under one or more of the following: the farm or farm operation existed before a change in the land use or occupancy in proximity to the farm, and if before that change in land use or occupancy of the farm, the farm or farm operation would not have been a nuisance; the farm or farm operation alleged to be a nuisance conforms to State and federal law; or the farm or farm operation has been conducting the agricultural activity at issue for two or more years prior to the date a nuisance action is commenced. The bill also would provide that if a farm or farm operation prevails in a nuisance suit brought against it, the court shall require the plaintiff to pay the actual amount of costs and expenses incurred by the farm or farm operation in defense, including attorney's fees.

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/bill/status/2022/S.268>

S.281 An act relating to hunting coyotes with dogs. This bill proposes to prohibit the pursuit of coyote with the aid of dogs, either for the training of dogs or for the taking of coyote.

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/bill/status/2022/S.281>

H.466 An act relating to surface water withdrawals and interbasin transfers. This bill proposes to regulate surface water withdrawals and interbasin transfers of surface water occurring in the State.

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/bill/status/2022/H.466>

****Passed House 1/28/22****

H.492 An act relating to the structure of the Natural Resources Board.

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/bill/status/2022/H.492>

H.501 An act relating to physical contaminant standards for residual waste, digestate, and soil amendments.

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/bill/status/2022/H.501>

H.542 An act relating to establishing riparian protection areas in the State. This bill proposes to require establishment of a riparian protection area adjacent to each stream in the State. A riparian protection area would be required to be at least 50 feet from the top of bank or top of slope of a stream with 0.25 or less square miles in drainage area and at least 100 feet from the top of bank or top of slope for a stream with greater than 0.25 square miles in drainage area. A person would be prohibited from creating cleared area or constructing impervious surface within a riparian protection area unless permitted by the Secretary of Natural Resources or allowed as a use under the act.

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/bill/status/2022/H.542>

H.543 An act relating to regulation of wetlands in the State. This bill proposes to establish as State policy that wetlands shall be regulated and managed by the State to produce a net gain of wetlands acreage. The bill would require the Secretary of Natural Resources to amend the Vermont Wetlands Rules to incorporate the net gain policy. In addition, the bill would require the Vermont Significant Wetlands Inventory maps to be updated and revised annually.

H.581 An act relating to rural economic development.

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/bill/status/2022/H.581>

H.605 An act relating to clean water funding. This bill proposes to require the Clean Water Board to recommend for annual appropriation at least \$200,000.00 annually to fund ECO AmeriCorps members who are assigned to clean water programs in the State.

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/bill/status/2022/H.605>

H.626 An act relating to the sale, use, or application of neonicotinoid pesticides. This bill proposes to prohibit the use of the neonicotinoid pesticides until the Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets adopts rules for the sale, use, or application of neonicotinoid pesticides. If the Secretary fails to adopt the rules by July 1, 2024, the prohibition on the sale, use, or application of neonicotinoid pesticides would become permanent.

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/bill/status/2022/H.626>

H.627 An act relating to the Vermont Economic Development Authority.

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/bill/status/2022/H.627>

Expands eligibility for loans

H.650 An act relating to prohibiting perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances in products to be sold in Vermont and the use and import of wastes containing microplastics. This bill proposes to prohibit the intentional use of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances in products to be sold in Vermont. This bill also proposes to prohibit the use and import of wastes that contain microplastics.

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/bill/status/2022/H.650>

H.653 An act relating to the creation of an ecological management qualification for the Use Value Appraisal program. This bill proposes to create a new category of management plans that would allow forested lands managed to increase carbon sequestration, carbon storage, or enhance wildlife biodiversity to qualify for the Use Value Appraisal program.

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/bill/status/2022/H.653>

H.657 An act relating to the designation of a lake in crisis. This bill proposes to strike as a requirement for the designation of a lake in crisis that the lake is located in a municipality in which the lake or a portion of the lake is located has reduced the valuation of real property due to the condition of the lake.

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/bill/status/2022/H.657>

H.667 An act relating to enacting the Uniform Restrictive Employment Agreements Act.

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/bill/status/2022/H.667>

H.669 An act relating to employee scheduling. This bill proposes to require employers with 20 or more employees to provide an employee with at least seven days' advance notice of the employee's work schedule; to pay an employee one and one-half times the employee's regular hourly wage for additional unscheduled hours that the employee agrees to work; and to pay an employee for work shifts that are canceled less than seven days before the schedule period begins.

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/bill/status/2022/H.669>

H.670 An act relating to employee expense reimbursement. This bill proposes to require employers to reimburse employees for necessary expenditures that are incurred by employees in the course of employment.

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/bill/status/2022/H.670>

H.679 An act relating to fiscal year 2022 budget adjustments.

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/bill/status/2022/H.679>

H.694 This bill proposes to establish multiple restrictions on the use of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in the State. The bill would prohibit the intentional use of PFAS in products to be sold in Vermont. In addition, the bill would prohibit landfills, refineries, and other industries from bringing industrial leachate to wastewater treatment plants. The bill would prohibit waste processors from dumping sewage sludge and septage on land in Vermont or its neighboring states. Waste haulers or processors would be prohibited from importing sewage sludge and septage that include PFAS into the State, and waste haulers or processors would be prohibited from importing all forms of solid waste into the State.

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/bill/status/2022/H.694>

H.696 This bill proposes to amend the definition of accessory on-farm business to add a new type of activity. It would add “on-farm restaurants” as an option for farms looking to add an accessory on-farm business to the property if, daily, the restaurant featured products produced on the farm. This would prohibit municipal bylaws from banning on-farm restaurants

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/bill/status/2022/H.696>

22-0543 An act relating to providing premium assistance for farmer participation in risk management program. This bill proposes that the State pay the costs of farmers to participate in U.S. Department of Agriculture risk management programs that mitigate risks to farmers from price volatility in the milk market.

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2022/WorkGroups/Senate%20Agriculture/Bills/DR%2022-0543/W~Michael%20O'Grady~DR%2022-0543,%20Draft%201.1,%201-6>
