

1 H.255

2 Introduced by Representatives Lawrence of Lyndon, Beyor of Highgate,  
3 Brennan of Colchester, Buxton of Tunbridge, Connor of  
4 Fairfield, Conquest of Newbury, Feltus of Lyndon, Hebert of  
5 Vernon, Higley of Lowell, Larocque of Barnet, Marcotte of  
6 Coventry, Martin of Wolcott, Partridge of Windham, Pearce of  
7 Richford, Ralston of Middlebury, Shaw of Derby, Smith of  
8 New Haven, South of St. Johnsbury, Terenzini of Rutland  
9 Town, and Young of Glover

10 Referred to Committee on

11 Date:

12 Subject: Recreation and sports; amusement rides; safety inspections

13 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require that  
14 amusement rides be inspected for safety before operation.

15 An act relating to safety inspections of amusement rides

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

17 Sec. 1. 31 V.S.A. § 725 is added to read:

18 § 725. SAFETY INSPECTIONS

19 (a) An amusement ride may not be operated in this State unless the ride has  
20 had a safety inspection after the ride is set up.

1       (b) An amusement ride may be inspected by a qualified safety expert. The  
2 ride may also be inspected by the operator of the ride.

3       (c) The operator of an amusement ride shall keep a log of all safety  
4 inspections. The log shall include the date and time of the inspection and shall  
5 be signed by the operator of the ride or his or her designee. Amusement rides  
6 shall be inspected and the inspection recorded in the log each day that the ride  
7 is in operation. An amusement ride shall not be operated prior to a safety  
8 inspection and the recording of the inspection in the log. The operator shall  
9 send copies of the log to the Secretary.

10       (d)(1) A fee of \$100.00 shall be paid to the Agency for each event in which  
11 the amusement rides are operated for those operations having fewer than  
12 12 rides. A fee of \$200.00 per event shall be paid for those operations having  
13 12 to 20 rides. A fee of \$300.00 per event shall be paid for those operations  
14 having more than 20 rides. The ride operator shall be responsible for payment  
15 of the fee.

16       (2) An operator who has the amusement rides inspected by a qualified  
17 safety expert is exempt from the fees in subdivision (1) of this subsection if the  
18 operator files a timely report of the inspection with the agency.

19       (e) As used in this section:

20       (1) "Agency" means the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets.

1           (2) “Secretary” means the Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets  
2 or designee.

3           (f) As used in this section, an event is the period of time in which an  
4 amusement ride stays in one designated location without substantially  
5 changing its location.

6           (g) An operator that violates this section shall be subject to an  
7 administrative penalty equal to the amount of fees described in subsection (d)  
8 of this section.

9       Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATES

10           This act shall take effect on July 1, 2013, except that Sec. 1(g) of this act  
11 (relating to administrative penalties) shall take effect on July 1, 2014.