

1 TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

2 The Committee on Fish, Wildlife and Water Resources to which was
3 referred Senate Bill No. 239 entitled “An act relating to the regulation of toxic
4 substances” respectfully reports that it has considered the same and
5 recommends that the House propose to the Senate that the bill be amended by
6 striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the
7 following:

8 Sec. 1. FINDINGS

9 The General Assembly finds that:

10 (1) There are more than 84,000 chemicals used commercially in the
11 United States, and each year approximately 1,000 chemicals are added to the
12 list of registered chemicals.

13 (2) More than 90 percent of the chemicals in commercial use in the
14 United States have never been fully tested for potential impacts on human
15 health or the environment.

16 (3) In 1976, the federal government passed the Toxic Substances
17 Control Act (TSCA) in an attempt to improve the regulation of chemicals
18 in the United States. However, TSCA grandfathered approximately
19 62,000 chemicals from regulation under the Act. Consequently, the
20 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is not required to assess the risk
21 of these chemicals. Since TSCA became law, EPA only has required testing

1 for approximately 200 chemicals, and has banned or restricted the use of five
2 of those chemicals. No chemicals have been banned in over 20 years.

3 (4) Biomonitoring studies reveal that toxic chemicals are in the bodies
4 of people, including chemicals linked to cancer, brain and nervous damage,
5 birth defects, developmental delays, and reproductive harm. Even newborn
6 babies have chemical body burdens, proving that they are being polluted while
7 in the womb.

8 (5) Vermont has regulated the use of individual chemicals of concern,
9 including lead, mercury, bisphenol A, phthalates, decabromodiphenyl ether,
10 tris(1,3-dichloro-2-propyl) phosphate, and tris(2-chloroethyl) phosphate, but
11 reviewing chemicals individually, one at a time, is inefficient and inadequate
12 for addressing the issues posed by chemicals of concern.

13 (6) Other states and countries, including Maine, Washington, California,
14 and the European Union, are already taking a more comprehensive approach to
15 chemical regulation in consumer products, and chemical regulation in Vermont
16 should harmonize with these efforts.

17 (7) The State has experience monitoring and regulating chemical use
18 through the toxic use and hazardous waste reduction programs.

19 (8) In order to ensure that the regulation of toxic chemicals is robust and
20 protective, parties affected by the regulation of chemical use shall have ample

1 opportunity to comment on proposed regulation so that the legal and financial
2 risks of regulation are minimized.

3 Sec. 2. 18 V.S.A. chapter 38A is added to read:

4 CHAPTER 38A. CHEMICALS OF HIGH CONCERN TO CHILDREN

5 § 1771. POLICY

6 It is the policy of the State of Vermont:

7 (1) to protect public health and the environment by reducing exposure of
8 its citizens and vulnerable populations, such as children, to toxic chemicals,
9 particularly when safer alternatives exist; and

10 (2) that the State attempt, when possible, to regulate toxic chemicals in a
11 manner that is consistent with regulation of toxic chemicals in other states.

12 § 1772. DEFINITIONS

13 As used in this chapter:

14 (1) “Aircraft” shall have the same meaning as in 5 V.S.A. § 202.

15 (2) “Chemical” means a substance with a distinct molecular composition
16 or a group of structurally related substances and includes the breakdown
17 products of the substance or substances that form through decomposition,
18 degradation, or metabolism. “Chemical” shall not mean crystalline silica in
19 any form, as derived from ordinary sand or as present as a naturally occurring
20 component of any other mineral raw material, including granite, gravel,
21 limestone, marble, slate, soapstone, and talc.

1 (3) “Chemical of high concern to children” means a chemical listed
2 under section 1773 or designated by the Department as a chemical of high
3 concern by rule under section 1776 of this title.

4 (4) “Child” or “children” means an individual or individuals under
5 12 years of age.

6 (5) “Children’s cosmetics” means cosmetics that are made for, marketed
7 for use by, or marketed to children. “Children’s cosmetics” includes cosmetics
8 that meet any of the following conditions:

9 (A) are represented in its packaging, display, or advertising as
10 appropriate for use by children;

11 (B) are sold in conjunction with, attached to, or packaged together
12 with other products that are packaged, displayed, or advertised as appropriate
13 for use by children; or

14 (C) are sold in any of the following:

15 (i) a retail store, catalogue, or online website, in which a person
16 exclusively offers for sale consumer products that are packaged, displayed, or
17 advertised as appropriate for use by children; or

18 (ii) a discrete portion of a retail store, catalogue, or online website,
19 in which a person offers for sale products that are packaged, displayed, or
20 advertised as appropriate for use by children.

1 (6) “Children’s jewelry” means jewelry that is made for, marketed for
2 use by, or marketed to children and shall include jewelry that meets any of the
3 following conditions:

4 (A) is represented in its packaging, display, or advertising as
5 appropriate for use by children;

6 (B) is sold in conjunction with, attached to, or packaged together
7 with other products that are packaged, displayed, or advertised as appropriate
8 for use by children;

9 (C) is sized for children and not intended for use by adults; or

10 (D) is sold in any of the following:

11 (i) a vending machine;

12 (ii) a retail store, catalogue, or online website, in which a person
13 exclusively offers for sale products that are packaged, displayed, or advertised
14 as appropriate for use by children; or

15 (iii) a discrete portion of a retail store, catalogue, or online
16 website, in which a person offers for sale products that are packaged,
17 displayed, or advertised as appropriate for use by children.

18 (7)(A) “Children’s product” means any consumer product, marketed for
19 use by, marketed to, sold, offered for sale, or distributed to children in the State
20 of Vermont, including:

21 (i) toys;

1 (ii) children’s cosmetics;

2 (iii) children’s jewelry;

3 (iv) a product designed or intended by the manufacturer to help a
4 child with sucking or teething, to facilitate sleep, relaxation, or the feeding of a
5 child, or to be worn as clothing by children; or

6 (v) child car seats.

7 (B) “Children’s product” shall not mean or include the following:

8 (i) batteries;

9 (ii) consumer electronic products, including personal computers,
10 audio and video equipment, calculators, wireless phones, game consoles, and
11 hand-held devices incorporating a video screen used to access interactive
12 software intended for leisure and entertainment and their associated
13 peripherals;

14 (iii) interactive software, intended for leisure and entertainment,
15 such as computer games, and their storage media, such as compact discs;

16 (iv) snow sporting equipment, including skis, poles, boots, snow
17 boards, sleds, and bindings;

18 (v) inaccessible components of a consumer product that during
19 reasonably foreseeable use and abuse of the consumer product would not come
20 into direct contact with a child’s skin or mouth; and

1 (vi) used consumer products that are sold in second-hand product
2 markets.

3 (8) “Consumer product” means any product that is regularly used or
4 purchased to be used for personal, family, or household purposes. “Consumer
5 product” shall not mean:

6 (A) a product primarily used or purchased for industrial or
7 business use that does not enter the consumer product market or is not
8 otherwise sold at retail;

9 (B) a food or beverage or an additive to a food or beverage;

10 (C) a tobacco product;

11 (D) a pesticide regulated by the U.S. Environmental Protection

12 Agency;

13 (E) a drug, or biologic regulated by the U.S. Food and Drug
14 Administration (FDA), or the packaging of a drug, or biologic that is regulated
15 by the FDA, including over the counter drugs, prescription drugs, dietary
16 supplements, medical devices, or products that are both a cosmetic and a drug
17 regulated by the FDA;

18 (F) ammunition or components thereof, firearms, air rifles, hunting or
19 fishing equipment or components thereof;

20 (G) an aircraft, motor vehicle, vessel; or

1 (H) the packaging in which a consumer product is sold, offered for
2 sale, or distributed.

3 (9) “Contaminant” means a chemical that is not an intentionally added
4 ingredient in a product, and the source or sources of the chemical in the
5 product are one or more of the following:

6 (A) a naturally occurring contaminant commonly found in raw
7 materials that are frequently used to manufacture the product;

8 (B) air or water frequently used as a processing agent or an ingredient
9 to manufacture the product;

10 (C) a contaminant commonly found in recycled materials that are
11 frequently used to manufacture the product; or

12 (D) a processing reagent, processing reactant, unintended by-product,
13 trace impurities in feedstock, incompletely reacted chemical mixtures, and
14 degradation products, or intermediate frequently used to promote certain
15 chemical or physical changes during manufacturing, and the incidental
16 retention of a residue is not desired or intended.

17 (10) “Cosmetics” means articles intended to be rubbed, poured,
18 sprinkled, or sprayed on, introduced into, or otherwise applied to the human
19 body or any part thereof for cleansing, beautifying, promoting attractiveness,
20 or altering appearance, and articles intended for use as a component of such an

1 article. “Cosmetics” shall not mean soap, dietary supplements, or food and
2 drugs approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

3 (11) “Intentionally added” means the addition of a chemical in a product
4 that serves an intended function in the product component.

5 (12) “Manufacturer” means:

6 (A) any person who manufactures a children’s product or whose
7 name is affixed to a children’s product or its packaging or advertising, and the
8 children’s product is sold or offered for sale in Vermont; or

9 (B) any person who sells a children’s product to a retailer in Vermont
10 when the person who manufactures the children’s product or whose name is
11 affixed to the children’s product or its packaging or advertising does not have a
12 presence in the United States other than the sale or offer for sale of the
13 manufacturer’s products.

14 (13) “Motor vehicle” means every vehicle intended primarily for use
15 and operation on the public highways and shall include snowmobiles,
16 all-terrain vehicles, and farm tractors and other machinery used in the
17 production, harvesting, and care of farm products.

18 (14) “Persistent bioaccumulative toxic” means a chemical or chemical
19 group that, based on credible scientific information, meets each of the
20 following criteria:

1 (A) the chemical can persist in the environment as demonstrated by
2 the fact that:

3 (i) the half-life of the chemical in water is greater than or equal
4 to 60;

5 (ii) the half-life of the chemical in soil is greater than or equal to
6 60 days; or

7 (iii) the half-life of the chemical in sediments is greater than or
8 equal to 60 days; and

9 (B) the chemical has a high potential to bioaccumulate based on
10 credible scientific information that the bioconcentration factor or
11 bioaccumulation factor in aquatic species for the chemical is greater than 1,000
12 or, in the absence of such data, that the log-octanol water partition coefficient
13 (log Kow) is greater than five; and

14 (C) the chemical has the potential to be toxic to children as
15 demonstrated by the fact that:

16 (i) the chemical or chemical group is a carcinogen, a
17 developmental or reproductive toxicant, or a neurotoxicant;

18 (ii) the chemical or chemical group has a reference dose or
19 equivalent toxicity measure that is less than 0.003 mg/kg/day; or

20 (iii) the chemical or chemical group has a chronic no observed
21 effect concentration (NOEC) or equivalent toxicity measure that is less than

1 0.1 mg/L or an acute NOEC or equivalent toxicity measure that is less than
2 1.0 mg/L.

3 (15) “Practical quantification limit (PQL)” means the lowest
4 concentration that can be reliably measured within specified limits of
5 precision, accuracy, representativeness, completeness, and comparability
6 during routine laboratory operating conditions.

7 (16) “Toy” means a consumer product designed or intended by the
8 manufacturer to be used by a child at play.

9 (17) “Vessel” means every description of watercraft used or capable of
10 being used as a means of transportation on water.

11 § 1773. CHEMICALS OF HIGH CONCERN TO CHILDREN

12 (a) List of chemicals of high concern to children. The following chemicals
13 are designated as chemicals of high concern to children for the purposes of the
14 requirements of this chapter:

15 (1) Formaldehyde.

16 (2) Aniline.

17 (3) N-Nitrosodimethylamine.

18 (4) Benzene.

19 (5) Vinyl chloride.

20 (6) Acetaldehyde.

21 (7) Methylene chloride.

- 1 (8) Carbon disulfide.
- 2 (9) Methyl ethyl ketone.
- 3 (10) 1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane.
- 4 (11) Tetrabromobisphenol A.
- 5 (12) Bisphenol A.
- 6 (13) Diethyl phthalate.
- 7 (14) Dibutyl phthalate.
- 8 (15) Di-n-hexyl phthalate.
- 9 (16) Phthalic anhydride.
- 10 (17) Butyl benzyl phthalate (BBP).
- 11 (18) N-Nitrosodiphenylamine.
- 12 (19) Hexachlorobutadiene.
- 13 (20) Propyl paraben.
- 14 (21) Butyl paraben.
- 15 (22) 2-Aminotoluene.
- 16 (23) 2,4-Diaminotoluene.
- 17 (24) Methyl paraben.
- 18 (25) p-Hydroxybenzoic acid.
- 19 (26) Ethylbenzene.
- 20 (27) Styrene.

- 1 (28) 4-Nonylphenol; 4-NP and its isomer mixtures including CAS
- 2 84852-15-3 and CAS 25154-52-3.
- 3 (29) para-Chloroaniline.
- 4 (30) Acrylonitrile.
- 5 (31) Ethylene glycol.
- 6 (32) Toluene.
- 7 (33) Phenol.
- 8 (34) 2-Methoxyethanol.
- 9 (35) Ethylene glycol monoethyl ester.
- 10 (36) Tris(2-chloroethyl) phosphate.
- 11 (37) Di-2-ethylhexyl phthalate.
- 12 (38) Di-n-octyl phthalate (DnOP).
- 13 (39) Hexachlorobenzene.
- 14 (40) 3,3'-Dimethylbenzidine and Dyes Metabolized to 3,3'-
- 15 Dimethylbenzidine.
- 16 (41) Ethyl paraben.
- 17 (42) 1,4-Dioxane.
- 18 (43) Perchloroethylene.
- 19 (44) Benzophenone-2 (Bp-2); 2,2',4,4'-Tetrahydroxybenzophenone.
- 20 (45) 4-tert-Octylphenol; 4(1,1,3,3-Tetramethylbutyl) phenol.
- 21 (46) Estragole.

- 1 (47) 2-Ethylhexanoic acid.
- 2 (48) Octamethylcyclotetrasiloxane.
- 3 (49) Benzene, Pentachloro.
- 4 (50) C.I. Solvent yellow 14.
- 5 (51) N-Methylpyrrolidone.
- 6 (52) 2,2',3,3',4,4',5,5',6,6'-Decabromodiphenyl ether; BDE-209.
- 7 (53) Perfluorooctanyl sulphonic acid and its salts; PFOS.
- 8 (54) Phenol, 4-octyl.
- 9 (55) 2-Ethyl-hexyl-4-methoxycinnamate.
- 10 (56) Mercury & mercury compounds including methyl mercury
11 (22967-92-6).
- 12 (57) Molybdenum and molybdenum compounds.
- 13 (58) Antimony and Antimony compounds.
- 14 (59) Arsenic and Arsenic compounds, including arsenic trioxide
15 (1327-53-3) and dimethyl arsenic (75-60-5).
- 16 (60) Cadmium and cadmium compounds.
- 17 (61) Cobalt and cobalt compounds.
- 18 (62) Tris(1,3-dichloro-2-propyl)phosphate.
- 19 (63) Butylated hydroxyanisole; BHA.
- 20 (64) Hexabromocyclododecane
- 21 (65) Diisodecyl phthalate (DIDP).

1 (66) Diisononyl phthalate (DINP).

2 (67) any other chemical designated by the Commissioner as a chemical
3 of high concern to children by rule under section 1776 of this title.

4 (b) Beginning on July 1, 2017, and biennially thereafter, the Commissioner
5 of Health shall review the list of chemicals of high concern to children to
6 determine if additional chemicals should be added to the list under subsection
7 1776(a) of this title. In reviewing the list of chemicals of high concern to
8 children, the Commissioner of Health may consider designations made by
9 other states, the federal government, other countries, or other governmental
10 agencies.

11 (c) Publication of list. The Commissioner shall post the list of chemicals of
12 high concern to children on the Department of Health website by chemical
13 name and Chemical Abstracts Service number..

14 (d) PQL value. A PQL value established under this chapter for individual
15 chemicals shall depend on the analytical method used for each chemical. The
16 PQL value shall be based on scientifically defensible, standard analytical
17 methods as advised by guidance published by the Department.

1 § 1774. CHEMICALS OF HIGH CONCERN TO CHILDREN WORKING

2 GROUP

3 (a) Creation. A Chemicals of High Concern to Children Working Group
4 (Working Group) is created for the purpose of advising the Commissioner of
5 Health regarding implementation of the requirements of this chapter.

6 (b) Membership.

7 (1) The Working Group shall be composed of the following members
8 who, except for ex officio members, shall be appointed by the Governor after
9 consultation with the Commissioner of Health:

10 (A) the Commissioner of Health or designee, who shall be the chair
11 of the Working Group;

12 (B) the Commissioner of Environmental Conservation or designee;

13 (C) the State toxicologist or designee;

14 (D) a representative of a public interest group in the State with
15 experience in advocating for the regulation of toxic substances;

16 (E) a representative of an organization within the State with expertise
17 in issues related to the health of children or pregnant women;

18 (F) two representatives of businesses in the State that use chemicals
19 in a manufacturing or production process or use chemicals that are used in a
20 consumer product or children's product manufactured in the State;

21 (G) a scientist with expertise regarding the toxicity of chemicals; and

1 (H) a representative of the children’s products industry with expertise
2 in existing state and national policies impacting children’s products.

3 (2)(A) In addition to the members of the Working Group appointed
4 under subdivision (1) of this subsection, the Governor may appoint up to three
5 additional adjunct members.

6 (B) An adjunct member appointed under this subdivision (2) shall
7 have expertise or knowledge of the chemical or children’s product under
8 review or shall have expertise or knowledge in the potential health effects of
9 the chemical at issue.

10 (C) Adjunct members appointed under this subdivision (2) shall have
11 the same authority and powers as a member of the Working Group appointed
12 under subdivision (1) of this subsection (b).

13 (3) The members of the Working Group appointed under subdivision (1)
14 of this subsection shall serve staggered three-year terms. The Governor may
15 remove members of the Working Group who fail to attend three consecutive
16 meetings and may appoint replacements. The Governor may reappoint
17 members to serve more than one term.

18 (c) Powers and duties. The Working Group shall:

19 (1) upon the request of the Chair of the Working Group, review
20 proposed chemicals for listing as a chemical of high concern to children under
21 section 1773 of this title; and

1 (2) recommend whether the Department of Health should adopt a rule
2 under section 1776 of this title to regulate the sale or distribution of a
3 children’s product containing a chemical of high concern to children.

4 (d) Commissioner of Health recommendation; assistance.

5 (1) Beginning on July 1, 2017, and biennially thereafter, the
6 Commissioner of Health shall recommend chemicals of high concern to
7 children in children’s products for review by the Working Group. The
8 Commissioner’s recommendations shall be based on the degree of human
9 health risks, exposure pathways, and impact on sensitive populations presented
10 by a chemical of high concern to children.

11 (2) The Working Group shall have the administrative, technical, and
12 legal assistance of the Department of Health and the Agency of Natural
13 Resources.

14 (e) Meetings.

15 (1) The Chair of the Working Group may convene the Working Group
16 at any time, but no less frequently than at least once every other year.

17 (2) A majority of the members of the Working Group, including adjunct
18 members when appointed, shall constitute a quorum, and all action shall be
19 taken upon a majority vote of the members present and voting.

20 (f) Reimbursement. Members of the Working Group, including adjunct
21 members, whose participation is not supported through their employment or

1 association shall receive per diem compensation pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 1010
2 and reimbursement of travel expenses. A per diem authorized by this section
3 shall be paid from the budget of the Department of Health.

4 § 1775. DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION ON CHEMICALS OF
5 HIGH CONCERN

6 (a) Notice requirement. Unless the Commissioner adopts by rule a
7 phased-in reporting requirement under section 1776, beginning on July 1,
8 2015, and biennially thereafter, a manufacturer of a children’s product or a
9 trade association representing a manufacturer of children’s products shall
10 submit to the Department the notice described in subsection (b) of this section
11 if a chemical of high concern to children is:

12 (1) intentionally added to a children’s product at a level above the PQL
13 produced by the manufacturer; or

14 (2) present in a children’s product produced by the manufacturer as a
15 contaminant at a concentration of 100 parts per million or greater.

16 (b) Format for notice. The Commissioner shall specify the format for
17 submission of the notice required by subsection (a) of this section, provided
18 that the required format shall be generally consistent with the format for
19 submission of notice in other states with requirements substantially similar to
20 the requirements of this section. Any notice submitted under subsection (a)
21 shall contain the following information:

1 (1) the name of the chemical used or produced and its chemical abstracts
2 service registry number;

3 (2) a description of the product or product component containing the
4 substance;

5 (3) the amount of the chemical by weight contained in each unit of the
6 product or product component;

7 (4) the name and address of the manufacturer of the children’s product
8 and the name, address, and telephone number of a contact person for the
9 manufacturer;

10 (5) any other information the manufacturer deems relevant to the
11 appropriate use of the product; and

12 (6) any other information required by the Commissioner under rules
13 adopted pursuant to 3 V.S.A. chapter 25.

14 (c) Reciprocal data-sharing. In order for the Department to obtain the
15 information required in the notice described in subsection (b) of this section,
16 the Department may enter into reciprocal data-sharing agreements with other
17 states in which a manufacturer of children’s products is also required to
18 disclose information related to chemicals of high concern to children in
19 children’s products. The Department shall not disclose trade secret
20 information, confidential business information, or other information designated
21 as confidential by law under a reciprocal data-sharing agreement.

1 (d) Waiver of reporting requirement. Upon application of a manufacturer
2 on a form provided by the Department, the Commissioner may waive reporting
3 requirements under this section if a manufacturer submitted the information
4 required by this section to:

5 (1) a state with which the Department has entered a reciprocal
6 data-sharing agreement; or

7 (2) a trade association, the Interstate Chemicals Clearinghouse, or other
8 independent third party, if:

9 (A) the information reported to the third party is publicly
10 available; and

11 (B) the information required to be reported for chemicals under this
12 chapter is provided to the third party and access to that information is or will
13 be clearly available from the Department of Health website.

14 (e) Notice of removal of chemical. A manufacturer who submitted the
15 notice required by subsection (a) of this section may at any time submit to the
16 Department notice that a chemical of high concern to children has been
17 removed from the manufacturer's children's product or that the manufacturer
18 no longer sells, offers for sale, or distributes in the State the children's product
19 containing the chemical of high concern to children.

1 (f) Certificate of compliance. A manufacturer required to submit notice
2 under this section to the Commissioner may rely on a certificate of compliance
3 from suppliers for determining reporting obligations.

4 (g) Products for sale out of State. A manufacturer shall not be required to
5 submit notice under this section for a children’s product manufactured, stored
6 in, or transported through Vermont solely for use or sale outside of the State of
7 Vermont.

8 (h) Required disclaimer. When the Commissioner posts on the Department
9 of Health website information submitted under this section by a manufacturer,
10 the Commissioner shall provide the following notice:

11 “The reports on this website are based on data provided to the Department.
12 The presence of a chemical in a children’s product does not necessarily mean
13 that the product is harmful to human health or that there is any violation of
14 existing safety standards or laws. The reporting triggers are not health-based
15 values.”

16 (h) Fee. A manufacturer required under this section to provide information
17 on its use of a chemical of high concern to children shall, within 30 days of
18 receipt of an invoice from the Department, pay a fee of \$2,000.00 per chemical
19 included on the list of chemicals of high concern to children. A fee submitted
20 under this subsection shall be submitted only with the first submission of
21 notice required under this section, and shall not be required for each required

1 subsequent biennial notice. Fees collected under this subsection shall be
2 deposited in the Chemicals of High Concern Fund for the purposes of that
3 Fund.

4 § 1776. RULEMAKING; ADDITIONAL CHEMICALS OF CONCERN TO
5 CHILDREN; PROHIBITION OF SALE

6 (a) Rulemaking authority. The Commissioner shall, after consultation with
7 the Secretary of Natural Resources and the Chemicals of High Concern to
8 Children Working Group, adopt rules as necessary for the purposes of
9 implementing, administering, or enforcing the requirements of this chapter.

10 (b) Additional chemicals of concern to children. The Commissioner may
11 by rule add additional chemicals to the list of chemicals of high concern to
12 children, provided that any chemical added to the list shall meet both of the
13 following criteria in subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection:

14 (1) The Commissioner of Health has determined that an authoritative
15 governmental entity or accredited research university has, on the basis of the
16 weight of credible, scientific evidence, demonstrated that the chemical:

17 (A) harms the normal development of a fetus or child or causes other
18 developmental toxicity;

19 (B) causes cancer, genetic damage, or reproductive harm;

20 (C) disrupts the endocrine system;

1 (D) damages the nervous system, immune system, or organs or cause
2 other systemic toxicity; or

3 (E) is a persistent bioaccumulative toxic.

4 (2) The chemical has been found through:

5 (A) biomonitoring to be present in human blood, umbilical cord
6 blood, breast milk, urine, or other bodily tissues or fluids;

7 (B) sampling and analysis to be present in household dust, indoor air,
8 drinking water, or elsewhere in the home environment; or

9 (C) monitoring to be present in fish, wildlife, or the natural
10 environment.

11 (c) Rule to regulate sale or distribution.

12 (1) The Commissioner may adopt a rule to regulate the sale or
13 distribution of a children's product containing a chemical of high concern to
14 children if the Commissioner determines that, based on the weight of available,
15 scientific studies, that due to the toxicity of the chemical of high concern to
16 children in the children's product and the potential exposure pathways in the
17 children's product, children would be at risk of exposure to the chemical of
18 high concern to children.

19 (2) A rule adopted under this section may:

20 (A) prohibit the children's product containing the chemical of high
21 concern to children from sale, offer for sale, or distribution in the State; or

1 (B) require that the children’s product containing the chemical of
2 high concern to children be labeled prior to sale, offer for sale, or distribution
3 in the State.

4 (3) In any rule adopted under this subsection, the Commissioner shall
5 adopt reasonable time frames for manufacturers, distributors, and retailers to
6 comply with the requirements of the rules. No prohibition on sale or
7 manufacture of a children’s product in the State shall take effect sooner than
8 two years after the adoption of a rule adopted under this section unless the
9 Commissioner determines that an earlier effective date is required to protect
10 human health and the new effective date is established by rule.

11 (d) Exemption for chemical management strategy. In adopting a rule under
12 this section, the Commissioner may exempt from regulation a children’s
13 product containing a chemical of high concern to children if the manufacturer
14 of the children’s product is implementing a comprehensive chemical
15 management strategy designed to eliminate harmful substances or chemicals
16 from the manufacturing process.

17 (e) Additional rules.

18 (1) On or before July 1, 2017, the Commissioner of Health shall adopt
19 by rule the process and procedure to be required when the Commissioner of
20 Health adopts a rule under subsection (b) of this section. The rule shall
21 provide all relevant criteria for evaluation of the chemical, time frames for

1 labeling or phasing out sale or distribution, and other information or process
2 determined as necessary by the Commissioner for implementation of this
3 chapter.

4 (2) The Commissioner may, by rule, authorize a manufacturer to report
5 ranges of the amount of a chemical in a children's product, rather than the
6 exact amount, provided that if there are multiple chemical values for a given
7 component in a particular product category, the manufacturer shall use the
8 largest value for reporting.

9 (3) Notwithstanding the required reporting dates under section 1774 of
10 this title, the Commissioner may adopt by rule phased-in reporting
11 requirements for chemicals of high concern to children in children's products
12 based on the size of the manufacturer, aggregate sales of children's products,
13 or the exposure profile of the chemical of high concern to children in the
14 children's product,

15 (f) Additional public participation. In addition to the public participation
16 requirements of 3 V.S.A. chapter 25 and prior to submitting a rule authorized
17 under this section to the Secretary of State under 3 V.S.A. § 838, the
18 Commissioner shall make reasonable efforts to consult with interested parties
19 within the State regarding any proposed prohibition of a chemical of high
20 concern to children. The Commissioner may satisfy the consultation

1 requirement of this section through the use of one or more workshops, focused
2 work groups, dockets, meetings, or other forms of communication.

3 § 1777. CHEMICALS OF HIGH CONCERN TO CHILDREN FUND

4 (a) The Chemicals of High Concern to Children Fund is established in the
5 State Treasury, separate and distinct from the General Fund, to be administered
6 by the Commissioner of Health. Interest earned by the Fund shall be credited
7 to the Fund. Monies in the Fund shall be made available to the Department of
8 Health and the Agency of Natural Resources to pay costs incurred in
9 administration of the requirements of this chapter.

10 (b) The Chemicals of High Concern to Children Fund shall consist of:

11 (1) fees and charges collected under section 1775 of this chapter;

12 (2) private gifts, bequests, grants, or donations made to the State from
13 any public or private source for the purposes for which the Fund was
14 established; and

15 (3) such sums as may be appropriated by the General Assembly.

16 § 1778. CONFIDENTIALITY

17 Information submitted to or acquired by the Department or the Chemicals of
18 High Concern to Children Working Group under this chapter may be subject to
19 public inspection or copying or may be published on the Department website,
20 provided that trade secret information and confidential business information
21 shall be exempt from public inspection and copying under 1 V.S.A. § 317(c)(9)

1 and information otherwise designated confidential by law shall be exempt from
2 public inspection and copying under 1 V.S.A. § 317(c)(1). It shall be the
3 burden of the manufacturer to assert that information submitted under this
4 chapter is a trade secret, confidential business information, or is otherwise
5 designated confidential by law. The Commissioner may publish information
6 submitted or acquired under this chapter that is designated a trade secret,
7 confidential business information, or otherwise confidential by law, provided
8 that the information shall be published in a summary or aggregate form and the
9 information shall not directly or indirectly identify an individual manufacturer
10 or a business advantage of an individual manufacturer.

11 § 1779. VIOLATIONS; ENFORCEMENT

12 A violation of this chapter shall be considered a violation of the Consumer
13 Protection Act in 9 V.S.A. chapter 63. The Attorney General has the same
14 authority to make rules, conduct civil investigations, enter into assurances
15 of discontinuance, and bring civil actions under 9 V.S.A. chapter 63,
16 subchapter 1. Private parties shall not have a private right of action under this
17 chapter.

18 Sec. 3. REPORT TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY; **CHEMICALS OF HIGH**
19 **CONCERN TO CHILDREN**

20 On or before January 15, 2015, and biennially thereafter, the Commissioner
21 of Health, after consultation with the Secretary of Natural Resources, shall

1 submit to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare, the House Committee
2 on Human Services, the House Committee on Ways and Means, the Senate
3 Committee on Finance, and the Senate and House Committees on
4 Appropriations, a report concerning implementation, administration, and
5 financing by the Department of Health of the requirements of 18 V.S.A.
6 chapter 38A regarding the chemicals of high concern to children. The report
7 shall include:

8 (1) Any updates to the list of chemicals of high concern to children
9 required under 18 V.S.A. § 1773.

10 (2) The number of manufacturers providing notice under 18 V.S.A.
11 § 1775 regarding whether a children’s product includes a chemical of high
12 concern to children.

13 (3) Recommendations for specific uses of chemicals of high concern to
14 children that should be restricted in children’s products due to public health
15 risks, as defined in 18 V.S.A. § 2(10), posed by that chemical when the product
16 is used as intended. These recommendations shall discuss and consider the
17 following factors:

18 (A) the human health benefits and costs to citizens of Vermont and
19 children’s product manufacturers if restrictions on chemicals of high concern
20 to children in a product were to be adopted by the General Assembly;

1 (B) the demonstrated public health risk as defined in 18 V.S.A.
2 § 2(10), to children that would be mitigated by the recommended
3 restrictions; and

4 (C) the likelihood that there are technologically and readily available
5 and commercially feasible alternative chemicals that would have an improved
6 human health safety profile to the chemical of high concern to children.

7 (4) An estimate of the annual cost to the Department of Health to
8 implement the chemicals of high concern to children program.

9 (5) The number of Department of Health employees needed to
10 implement the chemicals of high concern to children program.

11 (6) An estimate of additional funding that the Department may require
12 to implement the chemicals of high concern to children program.

13 (7) A recommendation of how the State should collaborate with other
14 states in implementing the requirements of the chemicals of high concern to
15 children program.

16 (8) A recommendation as to whether the requirements of this chapter
17 should be expanded to consumer products other than children's products.

18 Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE

19 This act shall take effect on passage.

20

21

1 (Committee vote: _____)

2

3

Representative _____

4

FOR THE COMMITTEE