
This act summary is provided for the convenience of the public and members of the General Assembly. It is intended to provide a general summary of the act and may not be exhaustive. It has been prepared by the staff of the Office of Legislative Council without input from members of the General Assembly. It is not intended to aid in the interpretation of legislation or to serve as a source of legislative intent.

Act No. 76 (H.515). Executive branch; health

An act relating to Executive Branch and Judiciary fees and food and lodging establishments

Secs. 1–3 of this act amends Judiciary fees as follows:

- creates a fee for requests to modify child custody determinations issued by courts in other States;
- creates a fee for motions to reopen existing cases in the Probate Division of the Superior Court, with an exception for small claims actions and estates;
- clarifies that a fee may be charged on annual accounts on decedents' estates following the appointment of the administrator or executor;
- creates a fee for motions to reopen an estate based on the value of a newly discovered asset;
- creates a fee for small estate affidavit procedures;
- creates a fee for requests for findings regarding motor vehicle titles; and
- creates a fee for the Judicial Bureau to issue exemplified certificates

Sec. 4 of this act sets the Workers' Compensation Administration Fund contribution rate for employers at 1.4%.

Sec. 5 of this act makes miscellaneous changes to 18 V.S.A. chapter 85 (food establishments), including the addition of lodging establishments to the establishments covered by the chapter. The act reorganizes the chapter and adds new definitions for: children's camp, food manufacturing establishment, food service establishment, lodging establishment, short-term rental, and shellfish reshipper and repacker. It moves some authority that currently resides in the Board of Health to the Commissioner of Health, including: rulemaking; inspection of establishments; authority to revoke, modify, or suspend a license or enforce a civil penalty; and authority to require the employee of an establishment to undergo testing or an examination to determine whether the person has a contagious disease or ailment that renders employment detrimental to public health.

Sec. 6 of this act creates the Short-Term Rental Working Group within the Department of Health for the purpose of evaluating: the impact of short-term

rentals on Vermont's hospitality industry; policies to level the playing field between short-term rentals and other lodging establishments; necessary precautions to protect health and safety; short-term rental policies implemented in other states and municipalities outside of Vermont; and appropriate registration fees and definition for "short-term rentals." The Working Group shall submit a report containing its findings and recommendations for legislative action to the House Committee on Health Care and to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare by October 1, 2017.

Effective Date: July 1, 2017