

Impact Guide: Results-Based Accountability in the Legislative Process

For Bills Intended to Impact Whole Population Indicators

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|-------------------------|---|
| Bill # and Title | |
| Host Committee | |
| Bill Status | |
| Event | (testimony, committee discussion, sponsor presentation) |
| Date/Time | |

| DISCUSSION QUESTIONS AND PROMPTS | | RESPONSES |
|----------------------------------|---|---|
| 1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do we propose to do or change in the bill? For whom (target population)? | |
| 2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What outcome(s) of well-being does the bill work toward achieving for all Vermonters? | (Reference Act 186 outcomes) |
| 3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What population indicators does the bill intend to change over time (increase, decrease, keep steady)? | (Reference Act 186 indicators or other) |
| 4 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the story behind the baseline that helps us see the problem (root causes, forces)? • What do those indicators tell us about how Vermont is doing now? | |
| 5 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who has a role to play in addressing these issues? • Who will be impacted by the bill or has a perspective? • Who is responsible for implementing the intent of the bill? | |
| 6 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How will the strategy proposed address root causes and forces at work? • What else has worked or could work? • What do we know does not work? • What have we tried before that is not working? | |
| 7 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How often will we review the population indicators to measure change? • Who will help us review the data from the appropriate source? In what format? • What performance measures will help the partners implementing the intent of the bill understand and learn from how it is going? | |

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Example Whole Population

1. **What do we propose to do in the bill (strategy)? Will this bill have an impact on a whole population?**
 - Increase the legal smoking age from 18-21.
 - This change in law is intended to have an impact on all Vermonters between 18 and 21, and collateral effects more broadly.
2. **What desired outcome(s) of well-being does this bill (strategy) contribute to achieving?**
 - Vermonters are healthy
3. **What whole population indicator(s) does this bill contribute to improving over time? Who is the target population?**
 - A decrease over time in:
 - *% of adults who smoke cigarettes (BRFSS)*
 - *% of people age 18-24 who smoke cigarettes (BRFSS)*
 - Target population: People age 18-21 in Vermont
4. **How is Vermont doing on this indicator now? (Where have we been; where are we headed?)**
 - Review indicator data on a trend line over time
 - What is the “story behind the curve?”
 - Consider the causes/forces at work behind the data
 - What have we tried before? What are we doing now?
 - What are we trying to address?
5. **Who are the partners who have a potential role to play in ensuring this bill will succeed?**
 - Who has a perspective on the causes/forces at work, and strategies to address them?
 - Retailers
 - Police
 - Who will be impacted by the change, or necessary to implement?
 - VT Department of Health
 - Retail businesses that sell cigarettes
 - VT Department of Liquor Control
 - VT Tax Department
 - Schools
 - Hospitals, Primary Care Physicians
 - Community Health Teams
 - Police Departments
 - Vermonters (18-24)
 - Who needs to be at the table? Invite them in for testimony.
6. **What do we know that suggests this bill (strategy) will work? (Is there research or evidence to support it? Best practices?)**
 - Impact of similar legislation in other states...
 - Brain research that suggests...
 - Advertising...(e.g., State of NY)
 - Retailers...
 - Schools...

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Example Whole Population

7. How will we know if we are improving over time? How will we learn and respond?

- Monitor indicator data over time – how frequently?
 - Which indicators?
 - % of people smoking cigarettes (BRFSS)
 - Health care utilization costs (over long term) (All-Payer Claims)
 - Who reviews?
 - House & Senate Health Committees – House and Senate
 - House Human Services
 - Senate Finance, House Ways/Means
 - House General
 - House Commerce
 - Senate Economic Development
 - Who provides the information? Who can inform the discussion?
 - Data Source: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey, VT Department of Health
 - How frequently?
 - Every 2 years
 - How do we review?
 - Report? Dashboard? Public hearing? Joint testimony?
- What performance measures will help us understand the extent to which the bill has been implemented successfully?
 - What do we measure now that will help partners with a role to play understand: How much are we doing? How well are we doing it? Is anyone better off?
 - % of retailers compliant with law...
 - % of schools with programming...