

1 H.451

2 Introduced by Representatives Gonzalez of Winooski, Cina of Burlington,
3 Colburn of Burlington, McCullough of Williston, Sheldon of
4 Middlebury, Sullivan of Burlington, and Weed of Enosburgh

5 Referred to Committee on

6 Date:

7 Subject: Health; occupational health; fragrances in State buildings

8 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require the
9 Vermont Occupational Safety and Health Administration (VOSHA) to study
10 the issue of whether fragrances in State buildings impacts the health of
11 employees or visitors and to report back to the House Committees on
12 Government Operations and on Corrections and Institutions and the Senate
13 Committees on Government Operations and on Institutions with findings and
14 recommendations.

15 An act relating to a study of fragrances in State buildings

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

17 Sec. 1. VOSHA STUDY OF FRAGRANCES IN STATE BUILDINGS

18 (a) On or before December 15, 2017, the Vermont Occupational Safety and
19 Health Administration shall:

1 (1) Study whether fragrances in State buildings or facilities have an
2 impact on the health of State employees or visitors and whether such impact
3 can be mitigated by instituting a scent-free building or scent-reduced building
4 policy.

5 (2) Coordinate with the Department of Health when studying the health
6 impacts of fragrances if necessary.

7 (3) Recommend changes, if any, to Vermont statutes or VOSHA rules to
8 address potential health impacts of fragrances in State buildings.

9 (4) Submit a report of the findings and recommendations to the House
10 Committees on Government Operations and on Corrections and Institutions
11 and the Senate Committees on Government Operations and on Institutions.
12 Any recommendation may take the form of draft legislation or rules.

13 (b) As used in the section, “fragrances” means any smell from personal
14 care products, air fresheners, candles, cleaning products, and any other product
15 that has been associated with adversely affecting a person’s health, including
16 headaches, upper respiratory symptoms, shortness of breath, and difficulty
17 with concentration.

18 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

19 This act shall take effect on passage.