

1 S.30

2 Introduced by Senators Pearson and Ashe

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Conservation and development; air pollution; hydrofluorocarbons

6 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to regulate the
7 use of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs).

8 An act relating to the regulation of hydrofluorocarbons

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

10 Sec. 1. 10 V.S.A. § 586 is added to read:

11 § 586. REGULATION OF HYDROFLUOROCARBONS

12 (a) As used in this section:

13 (1) “Class I substance” and “class II substance” mean those substances
14 listed in the 42 U.S.C. § 7671a, as it read on November 15, 1990 and Appendix
15 A or B of Subpart A of 40 C.F.R. Part 82, as those read on January 3, 2017.

16 (2) “Hydrofluorocarbon” means a manufactured fluorinated gas used
17 primarily in refrigeration, air-conditioning equipment, foam expansion agents,
18 aerosol propellants, solvents, and fire suppressants.

19 (3) “Residential consumer refrigeration product” has the same meaning
20 as in Section 430.2 of Subpart A of 10 C.F.R. Part 430.

1 (4) “Substitute” means a chemical, product substitute, or alternative
2 manufacturing process, whether existing or new, that is used to perform a
3 function previously performed by a class I substance or class II substance and
4 any substitute subsequently adopted to perform that function, including
5 hydrofluorocarbons.

6 (b)(1) The use of class I substances and class II substances as set forth in
7 42 U.S.C. §§ 7671a and 7671k, as those read on November 15, 1990, or any
8 substitute as set forth in Appendix U and Appendix V of Subpart G of 40
9 C.F.R. Part 82, as those read on January 3, 2017, is prohibited, except as
10 otherwise provided by in subsection (3) of this section.

11 (2) If the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency approves a previously
12 prohibited hydrofluorocarbon blend for foam blowing pursuant to the
13 Significant New Alternatives Policy Program, adopted pursuant to Section
14 7671k of the federal Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. § 7401 et seq.), the Secretary
15 shall expeditiously adopt rules pursuant to this section.

16 (3)(A) Prohibitions on residential consumer refrigeration products,
17 except compact and built-in residential consumer refrigeration products, shall
18 take effect January 1, 2022.

19 (B) Prohibitions on built-in residential consumer refrigeration
20 products shall take effect on January 1, 2023.

21 (c) The Secretary may adopt rules that include any of the following:

1 (1) The modification of the deadlines of a prohibition established
2 pursuant to this subsection if the Secretary determines that the modified
3 deadline meets both of the following:

4 (A) reduces the overall risk to human health or the environment; and
5 (B) reflects the earliest date that a substitute is currently or
6 potentially available.

7 (2) The prohibition on the use of any substitute if the Secretary
8 determines that the prohibition meets both of the following criteria:

9 (A) reduces the overall risk to human health or the environment; and
10 (B) a lower-risk substitute is currently or potentially available.

11 (3) The creation of a list of approved substitutes, use conditions, or use
12 limits, if any, and the addition or removal of substitutes, use conditions, or use
13 limits to or from the list of approved substitutes if the Secretary determines
14 those substitutes reduce the overall risk to human health and the environment.

15 (d) A person shall not offer any equipment or product for sale, lease, rent,
16 or otherwise cause any equipment or product to enter into commerce in
17 Vermont if that equipment or product uses or will use a substitute in a manner
18 inconsistent with any of the following:

19 (1) any prohibitions in subdivision (b) of this section;

20 (2) any prohibitions, use conditions, or use limits in subdivision (c) of
21 this section or rule; or

1 (3) any other applicable laws.

2 Sec. 2. ADOPTION OF RULES

3 On or before January 1, 2020, the Secretary of Natural Resources shall file
4 with the Secretary of State proposed rules to implement 10 V.S.A. § 586. The
5 rules shall establish a schedule to phase down the use of hydrofluorocarbons to
6 meet the goal of a 40 percent reduction from the 2013 level of use by 2030.

7 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

8 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2019.