1	S.146
2	Introduced by Committee on Health and Welfare
3	Date:
4	Subject: Human services; substance misuse prevention
5	Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to establish a
6	Substance Misuse Prevention Advisory Council to replace the Alcohol and
7	Drug Abuse Council. It also proposes to establish a Director of Substance
8	Misuse Prevention. The bill proposes to eliminate the Tobacco Evaluation and
9	Review Board and rename the Controlled Substances and Pain Management
10	Advisory Council to be the Vermont Prescription Monitoring System Advisory
11	Council.
12	An act relating to substance misuse prevention
13	It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:
14	* * * Legislative Intent * * *
15	Sec. 1. LEGISLATIVE INTENT
16	It is the intent of the General Assembly:
17	(1) to explore revenue generated by the taxation of substances such as
18	cannabis, tobacco, tobacco substitutes, and alcohol for the purpose of funding

substance misuse prevention initiatives throughout the State; and

1	(2) to redirect funds designated for the Opioid Coordination Council to
2	fund the Director of Substance Misuse Prevention pursuant to 18 V.S.A.
3	§ 4800 and the Manager of Substance Misuse Prevention pursuant to 18
4	<u>V.S.A. § 4804.</u>
5	* * * Vermont Prescription Monitoring System Advisory Council * * *
6	Sec. 2. 18 V.S.A. § 4255 is amended to read:
7	§ 4255. CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES AND PAIN MANAGEMENT
8	VERMONT PRESCRIPTION MONITORING SYSTEM
9	ADVISORY COUNCIL
10	(a) There is hereby created the Controlled Substances and Pain
11	Management Vermont Prescription Monitoring System Advisory Council for
12	the purpose of advising the Commissioner of Health on matters related to the
13	Vermont Prescription Monitoring System and to the appropriate use of
14	controlled substances in treating acute and chronic pain and in preventing
15	prescription drug abuse, misuse, and diversion.
16	(b)(1) The Controlled Substances and Pain Management Advisory Council
17	shall consist of the following members:
18	* * *

1	Sec. 3. 18 V.S.A. § 4284 is amended to read:
2	§ 4284. PROTECTION AND DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION
3	* * *
4	(g) Following consultation with the Controlled Substances and Pain
5	Management Vermont Prescription Monitoring System Advisory Council and
6	an opportunity for input from stakeholders, the Department shall develop a
7	policy that will enable it to use information from VPMS to determine if
8	individual prescribers and dispensers are using VPMS appropriately.
9	(h) Following consultation with the Controlled Substances and Pain
10	Management Vermont Prescription Monitoring System Advisory Council and
11	an opportunity for input from stakeholders, the Department shall develop a
12	policy that will enable it to evaluate the prescription of regulated drugs by
13	prescribers.
14	* * *
15	Sec. 4. 18 V.S.A. § 4289 is amended to read:
16	§ 4289. STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES FOR HEALTH CARE
17	PROVIDERS AND DISPENSERS
18	* * *
19	(e) The Commissioner of Health shall, after consultation with the
20	Controlled Substances and Pain Management Vermont Prescription
21	Monitoring System Advisory Council, adopt rules necessary to effect the

1	purposes of this section. The Commissioner and the Council shall consider
2	additional circumstances under which health care providers should be required
3	to query the VPMS, including whether health care providers should be
4	required to query the VPMS prior to writing a prescription for any opioid
5	Schedule II, III, or IV controlled substance or when a patient requests renewal
6	of a prescription for an opioid Schedule II, III, or IV controlled substance
7	written to treat acute pain, and the Commissioner may adopt rules accordingly.
8	* * *
9	* * * Substance Misuse Prevention * * *
10	Sec. 5. 18 V.S.A. chapter 94 is amended to read:
11	CHAPTER 94. <del>DIVISION OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE</del>
12	PROGRAMS SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS
13	Subchapter 1. Director of Substance Misuse Prevention
14	§ 4800. DIRECTOR OF SUBSTANCE MISUSE PREVENTION
15	There is created the permanent position of Director of Substance Misuse
16	Prevention within the Office of the Secretary in the Agency of Human Services
17	for the purpose of directing and coordinating systemic trauma-informed
18	prevention strategies across State government and in collaboration with
19	community partners. The Director shall have either a masters-level degree
20	specific to substance use disorder or public health or appropriate professional
21	experience or both.

1	Subchapter 2. Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs
2	* * *
3	§ 4803. ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE COUNCIL; CREATION; TERMS;
4	PER DIEM SUBSTANCE MISUSE PREVENTION ADVISORY
5	<u>COUNCIL</u>
6	(a) The Alcohol and Drug Abuse Council is established within the Agency
7	of Human Services to promote the dual purposes of reducing problems arising
8	from alcohol and drug abuse and improving prevention, intervention,
9	treatment, and recovery services by advising the Secretary on policy areas that
10	can inform Agency programs.
11	(b) The Council shall consist of 12 members:
12	(1) the Secretary of Human Services or designee;
13	(2) the Commissioner of Public Safety or designee;
14	(3) the Commissioner of Mental Health or designee;
15	(4) the Deputy Commissioner of Health for the Division of Alcohol and
16	Drug Abuse Programs;
17	(5) the Director of the Blueprint for Health or designee;
18	(6) a representative of an approved provider or preferred provider,
19	appointed by the Governor;
20	(7) a licensed alcohol and drug abuse counselor, appointed by the
21	Governor;

1	(8) a representative of hospitals, appointed by the Vermont Association
2	of Hospitals and Health Systems;
3	(9) an educator involved in substance abuse prevention services,
4	appointed by the Governor;
5	(10) a youth substance abuse prevention specialist, appointed by the
6	Governor;
7	(11) a community prevention coalition member, appointed by the
8	Governor; and
9	(12) a member of the peer community involved in recovery services,
10	appointed by the Governor.
11	(c) The term of office of members appointed pursuant to subsection (b) of
12	this section shall be three years.
13	(d) The Council membership shall annually elect a member to serve as
14	<del>chair.</del>
15	(e) All members shall be voting members.
16	(f) At the expiration of the term of an appointed member or in the event of a
17	vacancy during an unexpired term, the new member shall be appointed in the
18	same manner as his or her predecessor. Members of the Council may be
19	reappointed.

1	(g)(1) The Council may submit a written report to the House Committee on
2	Human Services and to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare with its
3	findings and any recommendations for legislative action.
4	(2) The report shall include the following:
5	(A) measurable goals for the State's substance abuse system of care;
6	<del>and</del>
7	(B) three to five performance measures that demonstrate the system's
8	results.
9	(3) The provisions of 2 V.S.A. § 20(d) (expiration of required reports)
10	shall not apply to the report required to be made under this subsection.
11	(h) Each member of the Council not otherwise receiving compensation from
12	the State of Vermont or any political subdivision thereof shall be entitled to
13	receive per diem compensation as provided in 32 V.S.A. § 1010(b) for not
14	more than six meetings annually. Each member shall be entitled to his or her
15	actual and necessary expenses.
16	(a) Creation. There is created the Substance Misuse Prevention Advisory
17	Council within the Department of Health for the purpose of consolidating
18	oversight of substance misuse prevention programs across the Department
19	and for providing advice to the Commissioner for improving prevention
20	policies and programming throughout the State. The Advisory Council's

1	prevention initiatives shall encompass all substances at risk of misuse,
2	including tobacco, tobacco substitutes, cannabis, opioids, and alcohol.
3	(b) Membership. The Advisory Council shall be composed of:
4	(1) the Secretary of Education or designee;
5	(2) the Commissioner of Public Safety or designee; and
6	(3) seven members who are appointed by the Secretary of Human
7	Services and who collectively offer expertise in the following disciplines:
8	(A) substance misuse prevention in a professional setting;
9	(B) pediatric care specific to substance misuse prevention or
10	substance use disorder;
11	(C) academic research pertaining to substance misuse prevention or
12	behavioral addiction treatment;
13	(D) education specific to substance misuse prevention;
14	(E) child and family trauma prevention and resilience development;
15	(F) law enforcement, criminal justice, or highway safety; and
16	(G) community outreach or collaboration in the field of substance
17	misuse prevention.
18	(c) Powers and duties. The Advisory Council shall strengthen the State's
19	response to the substance use disorder crisis by advancing evidence-based
20	and evidence-informed substance misuse prevention initiatives. The
21	Advisory Council's duties shall include:

1	(1) reviewing and making recommendations on best practices to assist
2	communities to significantly reduce the demand for substances through
3	prevention and education;
4	(2) reviewing substance misuse prevention program evaluations and
5	making specific recommendations for modification based on the results;
6	(3) reviewing existing State health, mental health, and drug and
7	alcohol addiction laws, rules, policies, and programs and proposing changes
8	to eliminate redundancy and to eliminate barriers experienced by
9	communities in coordinating preventative action with State government; and
10	(4) reviewing existing community-based recreation, afterschool, and
11	parent-child center programs to determine a foundation of connection and
12	support for all Vermont children and youth.
13	(d) Subcommittees. The Advisory Council shall have the ability to create
14	issue-specific subcommittees for the purpose of carrying out its duties. Any
15	subcommittees created may draw on the expertise of any individual
16	regardless of whether that individual is a member of the Advisory Council.
17	(e) Assistance. The Advisory Council shall have the administrative,
18	technical, and legal assistance of Substance Misuse Prevention Manager
19	established pursuant to section 4804 of this title.
20	(f) Report. Annually on or before January 1, the Advisory Council shall
21	submit a written report to the Governor, the House Committees on

1	Appropriations and on Human Services, and the Senate Committees on
2	Appropriations and on Health and Welfare with its findings and any
3	recommendations for legislative action.
4	(g) Organization.
5	(1) The Secretary of Human Services or designee and the substance
6	misuse prevention professional shall serve as co-chairs of the Advisory
7	Council.
8	(2) Members of the Advisory Council shall serve two-year terms. Any
9	vacancy on the Advisory Council shall be filled in the same manner as the
10	original appointment. The replacement member shall serve for the remainder
11	of the unexpired term.
12	(3) A majority of the membership shall constitute a quorum.
13	(h) Compensation and reimbursement. Other members of the Advisory
14	Council shall be entitled to per diem compensation and reimbursement of
15	expenses as permitted under 32 V.S.A. § 1010 for not more than six
16	meetings. Payments to members of the Advisory Council authorized under
17	this subsection shall be made from monies appropriated to the Department of
18	Health.

1	§ 4804. ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT MANAGER OF SUBSTANCE
2	MISUSE PREVENTION
3	The Agency of Human Services shall provide the Council with such
4	administrative support as is necessary for it to accomplish the purposes of this
5	chapter There is created the permanent position of the Manager of Substance
6	Misuse Prevention within the Department of Health for the purpose of:
7	(1) coordinating the work of the Substance Misuse Prevention Advisory
8	Council established pursuant to section 4803 of this title;
9	(2) coordinating strategic regional plans; and
10	(3) serving as a liaison to the Director of Substance Misuse Prevention
11	established pursuant to section 4800 of this title and to the Agency of
12	Education.
13	§ 4805. <del>DUTIES</del>
14	The Council shall:
15	(1) advise the Governor as to the nature and extent of alcohol and drug
16	abuse problems and the programs necessary to understand, prevent, and
17	alleviate those problems;
18	(2) make recommendations to the Governor and General Assembly for
19	developing:

1	(A) a comprehensive and coordinated system for delivering effective
2	programs, including any appropriate reassignment of responsibility for such
3	<del>programs; and</del>
4	(B) a substance abuse system of care that integrates substance abuse
5	services with health care reform initiatives, such as pay for performance
6	methodologies;
7	(3) provide for coordination and communication among the regional
8	alcohol and drug abuse councils, State agencies and departments, providers,
9	consumers, consumer advocates, and interested citizens;
10	(4) jointly, with the State Board of Education, develop educational and
11	preventive programs;
12	(5) assess substance abuse services and service delivery in the State,
13	including the following:
14	(A) the effectiveness of existing substance abuse services in Vermon
15	and opportunities for improved treatment; and
16	(B) strategies for enhancing the coordination and integration of
17	substance abuse services across the system of care; and
18	(6) provide recommendations to the General Assembly regarding State
19	policy and programs for individuals experiencing public inebriation.
20	[Repealed.]
21	* * *

1	* * * Repealing the Tobacco Evaluation and Review Board * * *
2	Sec. 6. 18 V.S.A. chapter 225 is amended to read:
3	Chapter 225. Tobacco Prevention, Cessation, and Control
4	§ 9501. DEFINITIONS
5	As used in this chapter:
6	(1) "Board" means the Vermont Tobacco Evaluation and Review Board
7	established by this chapter. [Repealed.]
8	* * *
9	§ 9503. VERMONT TOBACCO PREVENTION AND TREATMENT
10	(a) Except as otherwise specifically provided, the tobacco prevention and
11	treatment program shall be administered and coordinated statewide by the
12	Department of Health and the Vermont Tobacco Evaluation and Review
13	Board, pursuant to the provisions of this chapter. The program shall be
14	comprehensive and research-based, and shall include the following
15	components:
16	(1) community-based programs;
17	(2) school-based programs;
18	(3) tobacco cessation programs;
19	(4) countermarketing activities;
20	(5) enforcement activities;
21	(6) surveillance and evaluation activities;

19

1	(7) policy initiatives; and
2	(8) any other activities determined by the Commissioner or the Board to
3	be necessary to implement the provisions of this section.
4	(b) By June 1, 2001, the Department and the Board shall jointly establish a
5	plan that includes goals for each program component listed in subsection (a) of
6	this section, for reducing adult and youth smoking rates by 50 percent in the
7	following 10 years. By June 1 of each year, the Department and the Board
8	shall jointly establish goals for reducing adult and youth smoking rates in the
9	following two years, including goals for each program component listed in
10	subsection (a) of this section. The services provided by a quitline approved by
11	the Department of Health shall be offered and made available to any minor,
12	upon his or her consent, who is a smoker or user of tobacco products as
13	defined in 7 V.S.A. § 1001.
14	* * *
15	(f) The Board shall be represented on all tobacco program advisory
16	committees, including the youth working group, Community Grants Advisory
17	Board, and the Scientific Advisory Board. The Board's representative on any

such advisory committee shall include at least one member other than the

Commissioner of Health. [Repealed.]

1	§ 9504. CREATION OF THE VERMONT TOBACCO EVALUATION AND
2	REVIEW BOARD
3	(a) There is created and established, within the Office of the Secretary, a
4	body to be known as the Vermont Tobacco Evaluation and Review Board, an
5	independent State board created to work in partnership with the Agency of
6	Human Services and the Department of Health in establishing the annual
7	budget, program criteria and policy development, and review and evaluation of
8	the tobacco prevention and treatment program.
9	(b) The Board shall consist of 14 members, including ex officio the
10	Commissioner of Health and the Secretary of Education or their designees; the
11	Commissioner of Liquor Control or designee; the Attorney General or
12	designee; a member of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker
13	of the House; a member of the Senate appointed by the Committee on
14	Committees; a member representing a nonprofit organization qualifying under
15	Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and dedicated to anti-tobacco
16	activities appointed by the Speaker of the House; a member representing the
17	low-income community appointed by the Senate Committee on Committees;
18	two persons under the age of 30, one appointed by the Speaker of the House
19	and one appointed by the Committee on Committees; and four members
20	appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate,
21	including: one K-12 educator involved in prevention education; one tobacco

use researcher; one member representing the health care community; and one
tobacco industry countermarketing expert. The public members shall serve for
three year terms, beginning on July 1 of the year in which the appointment is
made, except that the first members appointed by the Governor to the Board
shall be appointed, two for a term of two years, one for a term of three years,
and one for a term of four years. Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner
as the original appointment for the unexpired portion of the term vacated.
(c) The Governor shall appoint a chair from among the Board's public
members. The Chair shall serve for a term of two years. The Chair may be
removed for good cause by a two thirds, voting majority of the Board. The
Board may elect such other officers as it may determine. The Board may
appoint committees or subcommittees for the purpose of providing advice on
community based programs, countermarketing activities, and independent
program evaluations. Meetings shall be held at the call of the Chair or at the
request of three members; however, the Board shall meet no fewer than four
times a year. A majority of the sitting members shall constitute a quorum, and
action taken by the Board under the provisions of this chapter may be
authorized by a majority of the members present and voting at any regular or
special meeting. Actions taken by the Board to approve, authorize, award,
grant, or otherwise expend money appropriated to the Board or the Department
shall require authorization from a majority of members of the entire Board.

(d) Public members other than ex officio members shall be entitled to per
diem compensation authorized under 32 V.S.A. § 1010 for each day spent in
the performance of their duties, and members shall be reimbursed from the
Fund for reasonable expenses incurred in carrying out their duties under this
chapter. Legislative members shall be entitled to per diem compensation and
reimbursement for expenses in accordance with 2 V.S.A. § 406.
(e) The Board may employ staff, through the Agency of Human Services, to
assist the Board in planning, administering, and executing its functions under
this chapter, subject to the policies, control, and direction of its members and
the powers and duties of the Board under this chapter. The Board may employ
technical experts and contractors as necessary to effect the purposes of this
chapter. The Board shall use the Office of the Attorney General for legal
services. The Board shall receive additional staff assistance from the
Department of Health, the Office of Legislative Council, and the Joint Fiscal
Office.
(f) The Agency of Human Services shall provide administrative support to
the Board for the purposes of this chapter.
(g) No member of the Board shall have any direct or knowing affiliation or
contractual relationship with any tobacco company, its affiliates, its
subsidiaries, or its parent company. Each Board member shall file a conflict of

1	interest statement, stating that he or she has no such affiliation or contractual	
2	relationship. [Repealed.]	
3	§ 9505. GENERAL POWERS AND DUTIES	
4	The Board Department shall have all the powers necessary and convenient	
5	to carry out and effectuate the purposes and provisions of this section, and	
6	shall:	
7	(1) Establish jointly with the Department of Health the selection criteria	
8	for community grants and review and recommend the grants to be funded.	
9	(2) Select <del>, upon the advice of the Commissioner,</del> a contractor	
10	responsible for countermarketing activities. The Department shall pay the fees	
11	and costs of any such contractor. The Board and Commissioner shall jointly	
12	and approve any final countermarketing campaign.	
13	(3) Review and advise the Department selection criteria for grantees and	
14	contracts funded by the Program in conformity with the goals established by	
15	the Department and Board.	
16	(4) Establish jointly with the Department an application process, criteria	
17	and components for an independent evaluation. The Board Department shall	
18	select an independent contractor to perform an independent evaluation, and	
19	oversee the independent contractor's evaluation of the tobacco prevention,	
20	treatment, and control program.	

October 1 of each year.

1	(5) Review and make recommendations regarding the overall plan and	
2	any memorandum of understanding developed jointly by the Department of	
3	Health and with the Agency of Education for school-based programs funded	
4	through the Tobacco Program Fund.	
5	(6) Review and make recommendations regarding enforcement activities	
6	administered by the Department of Liquor Control in accordance with the	
7	provisions of this chapter.	
8	(7) Review and advise any State agency on applications for funds	
9	contributed from any outside sources that are designated for purposes of	
10	reducing tobacco use.	
11	(8) In collaboration with the Agency and Department, organize a	
12	minimum of two public meetings by September 15 of each year, to receive	
13	public input and advice for setting program priorities and establishing an	
14	annual program budget.	
15	(9) Conduct jointly with the Secretary a review of the <del>Department's</del>	
16	proposed annual budget for the program, including funds contributed from any	
17	outside sources that are designated for purposes of reducing tobacco use, and	
18	submit independent recommendations to the Governor, Joint Fiscal	
19	Committee, and House and Senate Committees on Appropriations by	

1	(10) Propose to the Department strategies for program coordination and	
2	collaboration with other State agencies, health care providers and	
3	organizations, community and school groups, nonprofit organizations	
4	dedicated to anti-tobacco activities, and other nonprofit organizations.	
5	(11) Adopt a conflict of interest policy within 30 days of the appointmen	
6	of the full Board and include this policy in the annual report required under	
7	this chapter. [Repealed.]	
8	§ 9506. ALLOCATION SYSTEM	
9	(a) In determining the allocation of funds available for the purposes of this	
10	chapter, the Department and the Board shall consider all relevant factors,	
11	including:	
12	(1) the level of funding or other participation by private or public	
13	sources in the activity being considered for funding;	
14	(2) what resources will be required in the future to sustain the program;	
15	(3) geographic distribution of funds; and	
16	(4) the extent to which the goals of the project can be measured by	
17	reductions in adult or youth smoking rates.	
18	(b) The Department's and Board's allocation system shall include a	
19	method, developed jointly, that evaluates the need for and impact and quality	
20	of the activities proposed by eligible applicants, including, if appropriate,	

1	measuring the results of the project through reductions in adult and youth	
2	smoking rates.	
3	§ 9507. ANNUAL REPORT	
4	(a) On or before January 15 of each year, the Board Department shall	
5	submit a report concerning its activities under this chapter to the Governor and	
6	the General Assembly. The report shall include, to the extent possible, the	
7	following:	
8	(1) the results of the independent program evaluation, beginning with	
9	the report filed on January 15, 2003, and then each year thereafter;	
10	(2) a full financial report of the activities of the Departments of Health	
11	and of Liquor Control, and the Agency of Education, and the Board, including	
12	a special accounting of all activities from July 1 through December 31 of the	
13	year preceding the legislative session during which the report is submitted;	
14	(3) a recommended budget for the program; and	
15	(4) an explanation of the results of approved programs, measured	
16	through reductions in adult and youth smoking rates.	
17	(b) [Repealed.]	
18	* * * Substance Misuse Prevention Inventory * * *	
19	Sec. 7. INVENTORY; SUBSTANCE MISUSE PREVENTION SERVICES	
20	(a) On or before January 1, 2021, the Manager of Substance Misuse	
21	Prevention established pursuant to 18 V.S.A. § 4804, in consultation with the	

1	Director of Substance Misuse Prevention established pursuant to 18 V.S.A.	
2	§ 4800, shall develop and submit to the House Committee on Human Services	
3	and to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare an inventory of substance	
4	misuse prevention programs in the State. The Director shall include in the	
5	inventory:	
6	(1) the estimated cost of each program;	
7	(2) the geographic reach of each program;	
8	(3) the effectiveness of each program; and	
9	(4) any identified gaps in services.	
10	(b) On or before January 1, 2020, the Manager shall submit an interim	
11	report to the House Committee on Human Services and to the Senate	
12	Committee on Health and Welfare regarding its progress and findings related	
13	to subsection (a) of this section.	
14	* * * Appropriation * * *	
15	Sec. 8. APPROPRIATION; EVIDENCE-BASED EDUCATION AND	
16	ADVERTISING FUND	
17	In fiscal year 2020, up to \$400,000.00 may be appropriated from the	
18	Evidence-Based Education and Advertising Fund established pursuant to 33	
19	V.S.A. § 2004a to the Department of Health for the purpose of funding the	
20	prevention of prescription drug misuse efforts undertaken by the Substance	
21	Misuse Prevention Advisory Council established in 18 V.S.A. § 4803.	

## BILL AS INTRODUCED 2019

S.146 Page 23 of 23

* Effective Date	* * *
	* Effective Date

- 2 Sec. 9. EFFECTIVE DATE
- This act shall take effect on July 1, 2019.