Introduced by Senator Bray

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Conservation and development; plastics; single-use products; personal care products; lodging establishments

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to prohibit the provision by lodging establishments of personal use products in small plastic bottles.

An act relating to the provision of personal care products by lodging establishments

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

Sec. 1. 10 V.S.A. chapter 159, subchapter 5 is amended to read:

Subchapter 5. Single-Use Carryout Bags; Expanded Polystyrene Food Service Products; Single-use Plastic Straws; and Single-use Plastic Stirrers Products

§ 6691. DEFINITIONS

As used in this subchapter:

(1) “Agency” means the Agency of Natural Resources.

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(6) “Plastic” means a synthetic material made from linking monomers through a chemical reaction to create a polymer chain that can be molded or extruded at high heat into various solid forms that retain their defined shapes during their life cycle and after disposal, including material derived from either petroleum or a biologically based polymer, such as corn or other plant sources. “Plastic” includes all materials identified with resin identification codes 1 to 7.

(7) “Point of sale” means a check-out stand, cash register, or other point of departure from a store or food service establishment, including the location where remotely ordered food or products are delivered to a purchaser.

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(10) “Secretary” means the Secretary of Natural Resources.

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(14) “Single-use product” or “single use” means a product that is generally recognized by the public as an item to be discarded after one use.

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(16) “Lodging establishment” has the same meaning as in 18 V.S.A. § 4301.

(17) “Personal care product” means a product intended to be applied to or used on the human body in the shower or bath or on any part of the human body and shall include only shampoo, hair conditioner, and bath soap.
“Small plastic bottle” means a plastic container with less than six-ounce capacity that is intended to be nonreusable by the end user.

§ 6701. PERSONAL CARE PRODUCTS; SMALL PLASTIC BOTTLES; LODGING ESTABLISHMENTS

(a) The purpose of this section is to encourage lodging establishments to use bulk dispensers or personal care products to reduce plastic waste and lower operating costs, while still providing products for the health and safety of guests.

(b) A lodging establishment shall not provide a small plastic bottle to a person staying in a sleeping room accommodation, in a space within the sleeping room accommodation, or within a bathroom used by the public or guests beginning on:

(1) January 1, 2021, for a lodging establishment with more than 50 rooms; and

(2) January 1, 2022, for a lodging establishment with 50 rooms or fewer.

(c) A lodging establishment may provide a personal care product in a small plastic bottle to a person at no cost, upon request, at a place other than a sleeping room accommodation, a space within the sleeping room accommodation, or within a bathroom used by the public or guests.
(d) A lodging establishment that violates the requirements of this section shall be subject to a civil penalty of not more than $300.00. Upon a second or subsequent violation, the lodging establishment shall be subject to a civil penalty of not more than $500.00.

(e) Beginning on July 1, 2021, the requirements of this section preempt and supersede municipal bylaws regulating personal care products. A violation of this subsection is enforceable in the same manner as preemption under section 6699 of this title.

Sec. 2. 4 V.S.A. § 1102 is amended to read:

§ 1102. JUDICIAL BUREAU; JURISDICTION

(a) The Judicial Bureau is created within the Judicial Branch under the supervision of the Supreme Court.

(b) The Judicial Bureau shall have jurisdiction of the following matters:

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(6) Violations of 24 V.S.A. § 2201, relating to littering, burning of solid waste, and illegal dumping.

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(30) Violations of 10 V.S.A. § 6701, relating to the provision by lodging establishments of personal use products in small plastic bottles.

(c) The Judicial Bureau shall not have jurisdiction over municipal parking violations.
(d) Three hearing officers appointed by the Court Administrator shall determine waiver penalties to be imposed for violations within the Judicial Bureau’s jurisdiction, except municipalities shall adopt full and waiver penalties for civil ordinance violations pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 1979. For purposes of municipal violations, the issuing law enforcement officer shall indicate the appropriate full and waiver penalty on the complaint.

Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.