



To: Senate Committee on Government Operations
From: Jessa Barnard, Vermont Medical Society
Date: January 10, 2020
RE: Update on S. 111, Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry

Thank you for requesting an update regarding implementation of S. 111. Given the timing of your hearing, VMS staff is unable to testify in person next Wednesday, but we are pleased to provide a written update to the Committee.

The Vermont Medical Society is the State's largest physician membership organization, representing approximately 2,400 physicians, physician assistants and medical students of all practice types and locations. The Vermont Medical Society supported S. 111 and efforts to disseminate information regarding symptoms associated with exposure to open burn pits and contact information for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry.

In response to the bill, VMS has disseminated information to our members in the follow ways:

- Shared information with our members regarding S. 111 and the burn pit registry via our e-newsletter
- Educated our members regarding S. 111 and the burn pit registry via our Legislative Bulletin, sent at the end of the 2019 legislative session
- Added a link from our website to the Vermont Department of Health Website on the Burn Pit Registry (<https://www.healthvermont.gov/environment/chemicals/veterans-affairs-airborne-hazards-and-open-burn-pit-registry>)

Thank you for your ongoing attention to this issue. Please don't hesitate to reach out with questions to me via email or phone at jbarnard@vtmd.org or 802-917-1460.