This act summary is provided for the convenience of the public and members of the General Assembly. It is intended to provide a general summary of the act and may not be exhaustive. It has been prepared by the staff of the Office of Legislative Counsel without input from members of the General Assembly. It is not intended to aid in the interpretation of legislation or to serve as a source of legislative intent.

Act No. 45 (H.105). An act relating to expanding the Youth Substance Awareness Safety Program

Subjects: Youth; juveniles; impaired driving; alcohol possession; Youth Substance Awareness Safety Program

This act expands the Youth Substance Awareness Safety Program (YSASP) to include underage violations for cannabis possession and impaired driving, along with technical statutory changes to account for these inclusions.

Specifically, the statutes governing underage cannabis possession and impaired driving violations are repealed and the violations are no longer delinquencies adjudicated in the Family Division of the Vermont Superior Court. Instead, these violations are referred to YSASP for appropriate remedial programming, including automatic license suspensions for impaired driving violations and automatic license reinstatements for successful completion of YSASP. If the participant fails to meet certain statutory and YSASP requirements, then the infractions are treated as civil violations to be adjudicated by the Judicial Bureau.

The act also creates reporting requirements on various data points related to underage impaired driving violations and suspensions, along with a Public Records Act exemption for information disclosed during the YSASP process.

Effective Date: July 1, 2025