

Act 169 (S.155)

***EXCERPT: Administrative Procedure Act; Code of Administrative Rules***

Sec. 11. 3 V.S.A. § 847 is amended to read:

§ 847. AVAILABILITY OF ADOPTED RULES; RULES BY SECRETARY  
OF STATE

(a) The Secretary of State shall keep open to public inspection a permanent register of rules. The Secretary also shall publish a code of administrative rules that contains the rules adopted under this chapter. The requirement to publish a code shall be considered satisfied if a commercial publisher offers such a code in print at a competitive price and at no charge online.

(b) The Secretary of State shall publish not less than quarterly a bulletin setting forth the text of all rules filed since the immediately preceding publication and any objections filed under subsection 842(b) or 844(e) of this title. The provisions of 2 V.S.A. § 20(d) (expiration of required reports) shall not apply to the report to be made under this subsection.

(c) The bulletin may omit any rule if either:

(1) a commercial publisher offers a comparable publication at a competitive price; or

(2) all three of the following apply:

(A) its publication would be unduly cumbersome or expensive; and

(B) the rule is made available on application to the adopting agency; and

(C) the bulletin contains a notice stating the general subject matter of the omitted rule and stating how a copy of the rule and any objection filed under subsection 842(b) or 844(e) of this title may be obtained.

(d) Bulletins shall be made available upon request to agencies and officials of this State free of charge and to other persons at prices fixed by the Secretary of State to cover mailing and publication costs.

(e) The Secretary of State shall adopt rules for the effective administration of this chapter. These rules shall be applicable to every agency and shall include ~~but not be limited to~~ uniform procedural requirements, style, appropriate forms, and a system for compiling and indexing rules.

Sec. 12. 3 V.S.A. § 848 is amended to read:

§ 848. RULES REPEAL; OPERATION OF LAW

(a) A rule shall be repealed without formal proceedings under this chapter if:

(1) the agency ~~which~~ that adopted the rule is abolished and its authority, specifically including its authority to implement its existing rules, has not been transferred to another agency; or

(2) a court of competent jurisdiction has declared the rule to be invalid; or

(3) the statutory authority for the rule, as stated by the agency under subdivision 838(b)(4) of this title, is repealed by the General Assembly or declared invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction.

(b) When a rule is repealed by operation of law under this section, the Secretary of State shall delete the rule from the published code of administrative rules.

(c)(1) On July 1, 2018, a rule shall be repealed without formal proceedings under this chapter if:

(A) as of July 1, 2016, the rule was in effect but not published in the code of administrative rules; and

(B) the rule is not published in such code before July 1, 2018.

(2) An agency seeking to publish a rule described in subdivision (1) of this subsection may submit a digital copy of the rule to the Secretary of State with proof acceptable to the Secretary that as of July 1, 2016 the rule was adopted and in effect under this chapter and the digital copy consists of the text of such rule without change.

(d) If the statutory authority for a rule, as stated by the agency under subdivision 838(b)(4), is amended by the General Assembly, the agency shall review the rule and make a determination whether such statutory amendment repeals the authority upon which the rule is based, and shall, within 60 days of the effective date of the statutory amendment, inform in writing the Secretary

of State and the Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules whether  
repeal or revision of the rule is required by the statutory amendment.