

H.67 An act relating to household products containing hazardous substances

As proposed by the House Committee on Environment and Energy

URL for bill:

https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2024/WorkGroups/House%20Environment/Bills/ H.67/Drafts,%20Amendments,%20and%20Legal%20Documents/H.67~Michael%20O'Grady~H ouse%20Committee%20on%20Environment%20and%20Energy%20Committee%20Report%20(11-0-0)~2-16-2023.pdf

Bill Summary

The bill proposes to increase regulation around the sale and disposition of household containing hazardous materials in Vermont.

- The bill proposes to ban the sale of household products with hazardous materials starting on July 1, 2025, unless the manufacturer participates in a stewardship organization that meets certain requirements in the bill.
- Stewardship organizations that represent one or more manufacturers of household products containing hazardous materials would need to submit collection plans meeting minimum requirements to the Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) no later than January 1, 2025.
- Stewardship organizations would need to register with the State annually starting on July 1, 2024 and the bill proposes to establish reporting and audit requirements for these organizations.
- ANR would be responsible for reviewing collection plans and annual reports, receiving annual registrations, and providing overall supervision of stewardship organizations.
- ANR would be required to recommend a registration fee amount for stewardship organizations on or before January 15, 2024.
- Covered household hazardous materials would be banned from solid waste and landfills starting on July 1, 2025.

All provisions of the bill would take effect upon passage.

Fiscal Impacts

No revenue or budget impact from passage of this legislation is estimated at this time. There are some unknowns that could influence costs and revenues in future years, and these are explored below.

<u>Staffing</u>

A collection system for household hazardous waste currently exists in Vermont and ANR provides oversight through existing solid waste and hazardous waste programs. ANR does oversee existing producer responsibility functions for paint, mercury lamps and batteries. At this time, ANR does not think that new staff would be needed to manage this new responsibility. However, once the program is up and running and ANR has some sense of how much ongoing engagement is needed by staff then there could be a future request. ANR has indicated that this would mostly likely be several years down the road.

Registration Fee

ANR would be required to recommend a registration fee for stewardship organizations on or before January 15, 2024. However, the General Assembly would still need to take action to create that fee. While this bill would not result in any new State revenues, it would set a process in motion that could result in future legislation containing a new fee.