

1 S.82

2 Introduced by Senator Lyons

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Conservation and development; solid waste; per- and polyfluoroalkyl
6 substances; landfills

7 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to create a study
8 committee to evaluate the impacts of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances
9 leachate on natural resources from landfills in the State.

10 An act relating to the development of a committee to study the impacts of
11 PFAS in leachate from landfills in the State

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

13 Sec. 1. PER- AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES AND

14 LANDFILLS; STUDY COMMITTEE REPORT

15 (a) Creation. There is created the Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances in
16 Landfills Study Committee (Committee) to study the impacts of per- and
17 polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) from landfill leachate on Vermont's natural
18 resources, identify new methods for the disposal of PFAS in landfill leachate,
19 and expand the options for solid waste management within the State.

1 (b) Membership. The Committee shall be composed of the following
2 members:

3 (1) the Commissioner of Environmental Conservation or designee;

4 (2) a member from Casella Waste Systems, appointed by the Speaker of
5 the House;

6 (3) a member with expertise in landfill management, appointed by the
7 Committee on Committees;

8 (4) a member from an environmental organization, appointed by the
9 Speaker of the House; and

10 (5) a member from the Department of Health, appointed by the
11 Committee on Committees.

12 (c) Powers and duties. The Committee shall:

13 (1) develop a long-term State plan for the management of PFAS in solid
14 waste;

15 (2) develop recommendations and strategies to monitor PFAS in
16 leachate from landfills in the State;

17 (3) develop recommendations to monitor PFAS in composted material
18 and whether it is available for application;

19 (4) recommend alternative treatments for PFAS contaminated leachate
20 other than discharge to surface water sources; and

1 (5) evaluate whether a segment of the population of the State is bearing
2 a disproportionate share of the environmental burdens of PFAS in solid waste
3 and recommend to the General Assembly how to identify, reduce, and
4 eliminate environmental health disparities caused by PFAS within solid waste.

5 (d) Assistance. The Committee shall have the administrative, technical,
6 and legal assistance of the Agency of Natural Resources.

7 (e) Report. On or before December 1, 2023, the Committee shall submit a
8 written report to the House Committee on Environment and Energy and the
9 Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy with its findings on the
10 impacts of PFAS in landfill leachate, its recommendations for State monitoring
11 and management of PFAS in solid waste, recommendations for State
12 monitoring of PFAS within composted material and whether the compost is
13 available for application, and recommendations for alternative disposal
14 methods other than landfill disposal.

15 (f) Meetings.

16 (1) The Commissioner of Environmental Conservation or designee shall
17 call the first meeting of the Committee.

18 (2) The Committee shall select a chair from among its members at the
19 first meeting.

20 (3) A majority of the membership of the Committee shall constitute a
21 quorum.

1 (4) The Committee shall cease to exist on February 1, 2024.

2 (g) Compensation and reimbursement.

3 (1) For attendance at meetings during adjournment of the General
4 Assembly, members of the Committee shall be entitled to per diem
5 compensation and reimbursement of expenses pursuant to 2 V.S.A. § 23 for
6 not more than 10 meetings. These payments shall be made from monies
7 appropriated to the General Assembly.

8 (2) Other members of the Committee shall be entitled to per diem
9 compensation as permitted under 32 V.S.A. § 1010 for not more than 10
10 meetings. These payments shall be made from monies appropriated to the
11 Agency of Natural Resources.

12 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

13 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2023.