

CHAPTER 166
HB 511 - FINAL VERSION

8Mar2017... 0554h
04/27/2017 1462s
04/27/2017 1547s

2017 SESSION

17-0597
01/10

HOUSE BILL ***511***

AN ACT establishing a commission to study environmentally-triggered chronic illness.

SPONSORS: Rep. Messmer, Rock. 24; Rep. Bean, Rock. 21; Rep. Malloy, Rock. 23; Rep. T. Le, Rock. 31; Rep. R. Tilton, Rock. 37; Rep. H. Marsh, Rock. 22; Rep. Cushing, Rock. 21; Rep. P. Gordon, Rock. 29; Sen. Feltes, Dist 15; Sen. Fuller Clark, Dist 21; Sen. Bradley, Dist 3

COMMITTEE: Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill establishes a commission to study environmentally-triggered chronic illness.

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Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
 Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struck through.]~~
 Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Seventeen

AN ACT establishing a commission to study environmentally-triggered chronic illness.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 166:1 Statement of Intent. The general court recognizes that nearly half of adults in the
2 United States have at least one chronic health condition and chronic diseases are responsible for
3 increased health care costs. Seventy percent of health care costs in the United States are for
4 chronic diseases. Some chronic diseases are known or thought to be associated with environmental
5 causes. Therefore, the general court hereby establishes a commission to study environmentally-
6 triggered chronic illness.

7 166:2 New Subdivision; Commission to Study Environmentally-Triggered Chronic Illness.
8 Amend RSA 126-A by inserting after section 72 the following new subdivision:

Commission to Study Environmentally-Triggered Chronic Illness

10 126-A:73 Commission to Study Environmentally-Triggered Chronic Illness.

11 I. There is established a commission to study environmentally-triggered chronic illness.

12 II.(a) The members of the commission shall be as follows:

13 (1) Five members of the house of representatives, 3 of whom shall be appointed by
14 the speaker of the house of representatives and 2 of whom shall be appointed by the house minority
15 leader.

16 (2) Two members of the senate, one of whom shall be a member of the minority
17 party, appointed by the president of the senate.

18 (3) The commissioner of the department of health and human services, or designee.

19 (4) The director of the university of New Hampshire institute for health policy and
20 practice, or designee.

21 (5) A representative from the New Hampshire Medical Society, appointed by the
22 society.

23 (6) The chair of the board of trustees of the New Hampshire Hospital Association, or
24 designee.

25 (7) An advanced practice registered nurse, appointed by the New Hampshire Nurse
26 Practitioner Association.

27 (b) Legislative members of the commission shall receive mileage at the legislative rate
28 when attending to the duties of the commission.

29 III.(a) The commission's study shall include, but not be limited to:

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1 (1) Determining which entities may report confirmed cases of chronic conditions or
2 other health-related impacts to the public health oversight program.

3 (2) Recommending ways to alert public health officials regarding higher than
4 expected rates of chronic disease or other health-related impacts which may be related to exposures
5 of unrecognized environmental contaminants.

6 (3) Recommending a method to inform citizens regarding programs designed to
7 manage chronic disease or other environmental exposure health-related impacts.

8 (4) Recommending data sources and a method to include data compiled by a public
9 or private entity to the greatest extent possible in the development of the public health oversight
10 program.

11 (5) Defining by codes, the health status indicators to be monitored, including
12 chronic conditions, medical conditions, and poor health outcomes.

13 (6) Studying current health databases, including years available, potential for small
14 area analysis, and privacy concerns.

15 (7) Researching currently existing health data reports by agency, bureau, or
16 organization.

17 (8) Creating a model of desired data outputs and reports for chronic conditions and
18 other health-related impacts.

19 (9) Identifying the gaps between what currently exists and the model output.

20 (10) Recommending the organizational structure responsible for the oversight
21 function and mandatory reporting requirements.

22 (11) Collaborating with the National Institutes of Health, the United States
23 Environmental Protection Agency, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to develop
24 protocols for the department of health and human services to educate and provide guidelines for
25 physicians and other advanced health care practitioners to identify and evaluate appropriate
26 diagnostic screening tests to assess health effects from exposure to emerging contaminants.

27 (12) Collaborating with the National Institutes of Health, the United States
28 Environmental Protection Agency, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to develop
29 protocols for programs to streamline education and outreach to health care providers about how to
30 implement the guidelines specified in subparagraph (11). The protocols shall include education
31 relative to methods to reduce further exposures and to eliminate the contaminants, if effective
32 methods are available.

33 (b) The commission shall solicit information from any person or entity the commission
34 deems relevant to its study.

35 IV. The members of the commission shall elect a chairperson from among the members.
36 The first meeting of the commission shall be called by the first-named house member. The first
37 meeting of the commission shall be held within 45 days of the effective date of this section. Seven

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1 members of the commission shall constitute a quorum.

2 V. The commission shall submit an interim report of its findings on November 1, 2017, and
3 a final report of its findings and any recommendations for proposed legislation to the speaker of the
4 house of representatives, the president of the senate, the house clerk, the senate clerk, the
5 governor, and the state library on or before November 1, 2018.

6 166:3 Repeal. RSA 126-A:73, relative to the commission to study environmentally-triggered
7 chronic illness, is repealed.

8 166:4 Effective Date.

9 I. Section 3 of this act shall take effect November 1, 2018.

II. The remainder of this act shall take effect upon its passage.

Approved: June 28, 2017

Effective Date:

I. Section 3 effective November 1, 2018

II. Remainder effective June 28, 2017