

Amendment to HB 511

1 Amend the title of the bill by replacing it with the following:

2
3 AN ACT establishing a commission to study environmentally-triggered chronic illness.
4

5 Amend the bill by replacing all after the enacting clause with the following:
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7 1 Statement of Intent. The general court recognizes that nearly half of adults in the United
8 States have at least one chronic health condition and chronic diseases are responsible for increased
9 health care costs. Seventy percent of health care costs in the United States are for chronic diseases.
10 Some chronic diseases are known or thought to be associated with environmental causes.
11 Therefore, the general court hereby establishes a commission to study environmentally-triggered
12 chronic illness.

13 2 New Subdivision; Commission to Study Environmentally-Triggered Chronic Illness. Amend
14 RSA 126-A by inserting after section 72 the following new subdivision:

15 Commission to Study Environmentally-Triggered Chronic Illness

16 126-A:73 Commission to Study Environmentally-Triggered Chronic Illness.

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

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

19 (1) Five members of the house of representatives, 3 of whom shall be appointed by
20 the speaker of the house of representatives and 2 of whom shall be appointed by the house minority
21 leader.

22 (2) Two members of the senate, appointed by the president of the senate.

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

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

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

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

30 (7) An advanced registered nurse practitioner, appointed by the New Hampshire
31 Nurses Association.

32 (b) Legislative members of the commission shall receive mileage at the legislative rate

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1 when attending to the duties of the commission.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

37 IV. The members of the commission shall elect a chairperson from among the members.

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1 The first meeting of the commission shall be called by the first-named house member. The first
2 meeting of the commission shall be held within 45 days of the effective date of this section. Seven
3 members of the commission shall constitute a quorum.

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

8 3 Repeal. RSA 126-A:73, relative to the commission to study environmentally-triggered chronic
9 illness, is repealed.

10 4 Effective Date.

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

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

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2017-0554h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

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