

1 Introduced by Representative Cina of Burlington  
2 Referred to Committee on  
3 Date:  
4 Subject: Health; water pollution; cyanobacteria monitoring  
5 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require the  
6 Department of Health, at least every other day, to conduct or arrange for  
7 monitoring for the presence cyanobacteria in every State or municipal  
8 recreation area where the public can come into contact with waters of the State.

9 An act relating to monitoring for cyanobacteria in waters of the State

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

11 Sec. 1. 18 V.S.A. § 1222 is amended to read:

12 § 1222. CYANOBACTERIA MONITORING AND NOTIFICATION

13 (a) As used in this section:

14 (1) “Cyanobacteria” means photosynthetic bacteria that have two  
15 photosystems, produce molecular oxygen, and use water as an electron-  
16 donating substrate in photosynthesis, including microcystis, anabaena, and  
17 aphanizomenon.

18 (2) “Waters” shall have the same meaning as used in 10 V.S.A. § 1251.

1 (b) The Commissioner of Health, in consultation with the Secretary of  
2 Natural Resources, shall coordinate efforts to monitor the presence of  
3 cyanobacteria in the waters of the State.

4 (c) The Department of Health shall maintain a publicly accessible Internet  
5 site that provides information concerning the presence of cyanobacteria in  
6 areas known to be used for recreation, including swimming or boating. Within  
7 one hour of a determination that the presence of cyanobacteria in a recreation  
8 area is a public health hazard, the Commissioner of Health shall conduct public  
9 outreach describing the area affected and the nature of the public health hazard  
10 in the area.

11 (d) At least every other day, the Department of Health shall conduct or  
12 arrange for monitoring for the presence cyanobacteria in every State or  
13 municipal recreation area where the public can come into contact with waters  
14 of the State.

15 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

16 This act shall take effect on passage.