



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 718

January Session, 2025

House Bill No. 6278

House of Representatives, April 16, 2025

The Committee on Environment reported through REP. PARKER of the 101st Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE OF ALTERNATIVES TO ANIMAL TESTING METHODS AND REQUIRING THE USE OF BIODIESEL BLENDING METHODS FOR CERTAIN DIESEL FUELS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) (a) For purposes of this
2 section:

3 (1) "Alternative test method" means a test method that (A) provides
4 information of equivalent or better scientific quality and relevance than
5 animal test methods, (B) has been identified by a validation body and
6 adopted by the relevant federal agency or program within an agency
7 responsible for regulating the specific product or activity for which the
8 test is being conducted, and (C) does not use animals, or, when there is
9 no test method available that does not use animals, uses the fewest
10 animals possible and reduces the level of suffering or stress, to the
11 greatest extent possible, of an animal used for testing. "Alternative test
12 method" includes computational toxicology and bioinformatics, high-
13 throughput screening methods, testing of categories of chemical

14 substances, tiered testing methods, in vitro studies, and systems biology
15 and new or revised methods;

16 (2) "Animal" means any live vertebrate nonhuman animal;

17 (3) "Animal test method" means a process or procedure that uses
18 animals to obtain information on the characteristics of a chemical or
19 agent or the biological effect of exposure to a chemical or agent under
20 specified conditions;

21 (4) "Animal testing facility" means any facility, including a private
22 entity, state agency or institution of higher education, that confines and
23 uses animals for research, education, testing or other scientific or
24 medical purposes;

25 (5) "Contract testing facility" means any partnership, corporation,
26 association or other legal entity that tests chemicals, ingredients,
27 product formulations or products on behalf of another entity;

28 (6) "Manufacturer" means any partnership, corporation, association
29 or other legal entity that produces chemicals, ingredients, product
30 formulations or products; and

31 (7) "Validation body" means any organization that seeks to facilitate
32 development, validation and regulatory acceptance of new and revised
33 regulatory test methods that reduce, refine or replace the use of animals
34 in testing, such as the Interagency Coordinating Committee on the
35 Validation of Alternative Methods or other similar organizations.

36 (b) No manufacturer or contract testing facility shall use an animal
37 test method when an alternative test method is available.

38 (c) The provisions of subsection (b) of this section shall not apply to
39 any manufacturer or contract test facility that uses an animal test
40 method for the purpose of medical research related to the causes,
41 diagnosis, treatment, control or prevention of physical or mental
42 diseases and impairments of humans and animals, or related to the
43 development of devices or drugs, as those terms are defined in 21 USC

44 321, biomedical products, or any other products regulated by the United
45 States Food and Drug Administration, except any product regulated
46 under Subchapter VI of the federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act. Such
47 medical research shall not include the testing of an ingredient that (1)
48 was formerly used in a drug, (2) was tested for use in a drug using
49 commonly accepted animal testing methods to characterize the
50 ingredient and to substantiate its safety for human use, and (3) is
51 proposed for use in a product other than a biomedical product, medical
52 device or drug.

53 (d) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the use of a
54 test method that does not use animals.

55 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) All diesel fuel sold or offered
56 for sale at retail in the state for use in internal combustion engines
57 during the months of April, May, June, July, August, September,
58 October and November shall contain not less than the following
59 percentage of biodiesel by volume on and after the following dates:

60 (1) Not less than five per cent, on or before July 1, 2025;

61 (2) Not less than ten per cent, on or before July 1, 2027; and

62 (3) Not less than twenty per cent, on or before July 1, 2029.

63 (b) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, all diesel operated
64 vehicles, vessels and construction equipment that is part of the state fleet
65 shall operate on the following percentage of biodiesel by volume during
66 the months of April, May, June, July, August, September, October and
67 November on and after the following dates:

68 (1) Not less than five per cent, on or before July 1, 2025; and

69 (2) Not less than twenty per cent, on or before July 1, 2027.

70 (c) For purposes of this section, "biodiesel" means a fuel comprised of
71 mono-alkyl esters of long chain fatty acids derived from vegetable oils
72 or animal fats, designated B100, and meeting the requirements of

73 designation D6751 of the American Society for Testing and Materials.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
---	--	--

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section

ENV *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: See Below

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill potentially results in increased costs or savings to various state agencies since it mandates use of certain biodiesel blends beginning in FY 26. The cost or savings is unknown and dependent on future fuel prices.

Recent national average retail fuel prices for biodiesel (B20) have been \$0.04/gallon less than the conventional diesel gallon equivalent.¹ However, it should be noted that price data specifically for Connecticut is limited and may differ substantially from the U.S. as a whole given the limited local market for such fuels compared to other states.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to fuel prices.

¹ Source: U.S. Department of Energy, Alternative Fuel Price Report, October 2024, Table 3.

OLR Bill Analysis**HB 6278*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE OF ALTERNATIVES TO ANIMAL TESTING METHODS AND REQUIRING THE USE OF BIODIESEL BLENDING METHODS FOR CERTAIN DIESEL FUELS.*****SUMMARY**

This bill bans the use of certain animal testing by manufacturers or contract testing facilities when certain alternative methods are available.

It also requires, by certain dates, all (1) diesel fuel sold or offered for sale in retail establishments from April to November to use increasing amounts of biodiesel and (2) diesel-operated vehicles, vessels, and construction equipment in the state fleet to use increasing percentages of biodiesel from April to November.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage, except the provisions on animal testing are effective October 1, 2025.

ANIMAL TESTING BAN

The bill prohibits entities that produce or test chemicals, ingredients, products formulations, or products (manufacturers and contract testing facilities) from conducting animal testing if there is an alternative testing method.

Under the bill, animal testing involves using animals to obtain information about a chemical or agent or the biological effect of exposure to them. An alternative test method is one that:

1. provides information of equivalent or better scientific quality and relevance than animal test methods;
2. has been identified by a validation body (an organization that facilitates development, validation, and regulatory acceptance of

testing methods that reduce, refine, or replace the use of animals in testing, such as the Interagency Coordinating Committee on the Validation of Alternative Methods) and adopted by the relevant federal agency or program within an agency responsible for regulating the product or activity for which the test is being conducted; and

3. does not use animals, or, when there is no test method available that does not use animals, uses the fewest animals possible and reduces their suffering or stress to the greatest extent possible.

Exceptions

The bill's prohibition does not apply to animal testing for medical research into the (1) causes, diagnosis, treatment, control, or prevention of physical or mental diseases or (2) development of devices, drugs, biomedical products, and any products other than cosmetics regulated by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. But this exception does not apply to ingredients that (1) were formerly used in a drug; (2) were tested for drug use through animal testing to be characterized as safe; and (3) are being proposed for use in something that is not a biomedical product, medical device, or drug.

The bill does not prohibit testing methods that do not use animals (i.e. live vertebrate nonhuman animals).

BIODIESEL REQUIREMENTS

During the months of April to November, the bill requires retail diesel sold or offered for sale in the state to contain larger percentages of biodiesel, by these dates:

1. at least 5% by July 1, 2025;
2. at least 10% by July 1, 2027; and
3. at least 20% by July 1, 2029.

Similarly, from April to November, all diesel operated vehicles, vessels, and construction equipment that is part of the state fleet must

use larger percentages of biodiesel, by these dates:

1. at least 5% by July 1, 2025, and
2. at least 20% by July 1, 2027.

Under the bill, “biodiesel” is fuel derived from vegetable oils or animal fats that is designated as B100 (i.e. 100% biodiesel without petroleum diesel mixed in) and meets the requirements of D6751 of the American Society for Testing and Materials (i.e. a biodiesel specification). This type of biodiesel is referred to as “pure biodiesel” and is typically used to create fuel blends.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 30 Nay 2 (03/28/2025)