

General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Committee Bill No. 6263

LCO No. **5317**

Referred to Committee on ENVIRONMENT

Introduced by: (ENV)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE AND PURCHASE OF GAS-POWERED HAND-HELD OR BACKPACK LEAF BLOWERS BY STATE AGENCIES.

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

Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, the Commissioner of Administrative Services and each municipality shall respectively develop a plan for the phase out of the purchase and use of gas-powered leaf blowers by any state or municipal agency, respectively, whether such devices are handheld or backpack style. Such phase out shall occur during the two-year period commencing January 1, 2027.

8 (b) On and after January 1, 2029, no person shall use, sell, offer for 9 sale or distribute in this state any gas-powered leaf blower, whether 10 hand-held or backpack style. The Commissioner of Consumer 11 Protection may adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of 12 chapter 54 of the general statutes, for the enforcement of the provisions 13 of this subsection. Each municipality may provide, by ordinance, for the 14 enforcement of the provisions of this section concerning the use of such 15 machinery.

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

Section 1	from passage	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To eventually prohibit the use of hand-held or backpack gas-powered leaf blowers in the state.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: REP. BERGER-GIRVALO, 111th Dist.; SEN. KUSHNER, 24th Dist. SEN. MAHER, 26th Dist.; REP. SHANNON, 117th Dist. REP. SWEET, 91st Dist.; REP. ARZENO, 151st Dist.

<u>H.B. 6263</u>