

General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 6263

January Session, 2025

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:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2025) (a) On and after September 2 1, 2027, the Departments of Administrative Services, Energy and 3 Environmental Protection and Transportation shall, within available 4 appropriations, purchase, lease or acquire electric hand-held or push 5 lawn mowers, leaf blowers and lawn trimmers for state agencies for 6 landscaping services on state-owned property if: (1) Such machinery is 7 functionally equivalent to any such gas-powered machinery, and (2) the 8 useful life of similar gas-powered machinery owned, leased or acquired 9 by such agencies has expired.

10 (b) On and after September 1, 2029, the Departments of 11 Administrative Services, Energy and Environmental Protection and 12 Transportation shall, within available appropriations, prepare bidding 13 documents for contractors who seek to perform maintenance or 14 landscaping work on state properties in order to require bidders to use 15 electric hand-held or push lawn mowers, leaf blowers and lawn 16 trimmers in performing such work if such machinery is functionally 17 equivalent to any such gas-powered machinery.

(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, 18 19 said commissioners may make an exception to such purchase, lease and 20 acquisition requirements if fiscal resources or agency operations depend 21 on the utilization of specific equipment, including, but not limited to, 22 the following operations: (1) Abating or preventing damage during a 23 declared emergency or for equipment used by first responders to provide emergency services, (2) conducting fire hazard reduction and 24 25 post-fire recovery activities, (3) managing riparian, forest or grassland 26 areas, or (4) maintaining public safety.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following
sections:Section 1October 1, 2025New section

ENV Joint Favorable Subst.