MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1249

H. P. 1015 House of Representatives, March 16, 1979 Referred to the Committee on Agriculture. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Wood of Sanford.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED SEVENTY-NINE

AN ACT Concerning Regulations of the Department of Agriculture Governing Organic Fertilizers.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

7 MRSA § 748, first \P , as amended by PL 1977, c. 694, § 75, is further amended by adding at the end a new sentence to read:

The commissioner shall periodically review those regulations to ensure that they do not discriminate against organic fertilizers, especially with regard to the analysis required for registration and the commissioner shall ensure that these regulations require tests, other than water solubility tests, be used to test organic fertilizers.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill ensures that the Commissioner of Agriculture will review the department's regulations concerning standards and testing for fertilizers to ensure that organic fertilizers are not discriminated against. It specifies that the water solubility test, which is commonly used for nonorganic fertilizers but is inapplicable to organic fertilizers, will not be used for testing of organic fertilizers.