

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

2  
4  
6  
8  
10  
12  
14  
16  
18  
20  
22  
24  
26  
28  
30  
32  
34  
36  
38  
40

STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
116TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 270, L.D. 348, Bill, "An Act to Define Composting Operations as Agricultural Activities for Environmental Purposes"

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'An Act to Define Composting as a Farm Operation'

Further amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the statement of fact and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 1. 17 MRSA §2805, sub-§1, ¶B, as enacted by PL 1981, c. 472, is amended to read:

B. "Farm operation" means a condition or activity which that occurs on a farm in connection with the commercial production of farm products and includes, but is not limited to, noise, odors, dust, fumes, operation of machinery and irrigation pumps, ground and aerial seeding, ground spraying, composting of material produced by the farm or to be used at least in part on the farm, disposal of manure, the application of chemical fertilizers, soil amendments, conditioners and pesticides and the employment and use of labor.'

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

STATEMENT OF FACT

2  
4  
6  
8  
10  
12

The amendment replaces the bill. The amendment amends the definition of "farm operation" in the so-called "right-to-farm" law to include composting of material from the farm or composting of material to be used at least in part on the farm. This change to the "right-to-farm" law means that a farmer is not considered to be causing a nuisance by engaging in composting activities, provided the composting is performed in compliance with best management practices as set out by the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources. Under current law, composting may also be subject to regulation by the Department of Environmental Protection.

Reported by the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources  
Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House  
April 6, 1993 (Filing No. H-127)