

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

March 12, 2012

The Honorable Kevin L. Raye
President of the Senate
The Honorable Robert W. Nutting
Speaker of the House of Representatives
125th Legislature
State House
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Mr. President and Mr. Speaker:

Pursuant to Title 3 Maine Revised Statutes, chapter 35, we are pleased to submit the findings of the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry from the review and evaluation of the Board of Pesticides Control under the State Government Evaluation Act. In its review, the Committee found that the Board is operating within its statutory authority.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Roger L. Sherman in cursive.

Senator Roger L. Sherman
Senate Chair

Handwritten signature of Peter E. Edgcomb in cursive.

Representative Peter E. Edgcomb
House Chair

cc: Henry Jennings, Director, Board of Pesticides Control
Marion Hylan Barr, Director, Office of Policy and Legal Analysis

Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

Review of the Board of Pesticides Control under the Government Evaluation Act March 2012

The Government Evaluation Act

The Government Evaluation Act provides for a system of periodic review of the efficacy and performance of state government agencies (3 MRSA §951 et seq). The keystone of the Act is the agency's program evaluation report that consists of a number of components required by the statute. Essentially, the report is an agency self-assessment, which the committee of jurisdiction uses as a starting point for its evaluation of the agency's effectiveness, efficiency and performance.

Review Process

In May of 2011, the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry notified the Board of Pesticides Control of its intent to review the department pursuant to the schedule established in 3 MRSA, §959. The Board submitted its program evaluation report as requested in October of 2011. On January 19, 2012, Henry Jennings, The Executive Director of the BPC, gave an oral presentation of the report. The committee discussed recent and emerging issues relating to pesticides use.

Findings and Recommendation

The Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry has reviewed the Board of Pesticides Control and finds that it is operating within its statutory authority. The four major program responsibilities of the board and its staff are: pesticide registration, certification and licensing of pesticides applicators and dealers, compliance with all state and federal regulations, and education.

Detailed information about the Board of Pesticides Control can be found in the Board's Program Evaluation Report, which meets the criteria set in statute (3 MRSA §956). The Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry is recommending that the Board of Pesticides Control be reviewed again in 2019.