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HOUSE BILL 1520

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State of Washington                      56th Legislature                      1999 Regular Session

By Representatives Dunshee, Grant, Sheahan, Boldt and Carrell

Read first time 01/27/1999. Referred to Committee on Agriculture & Ecology.

1            AN ACT Relating to specialty fertilizer labeling language; amending  
2 RCW 15.54.340; and creating a new section.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** It is the intent of the legislature that the  
5 labeling language applied to specialty fertilizer products sold in  
6 Washington state not be so restrictive as to inhibit the sales of such  
7 products either intrastate or interstate. The wording of the label  
8 should be acceptable to the American plant food control officials which  
9 is an organization composed of agricultural regulators from all states.

10           **Sec. 2.** RCW 15.54.340 and 1998 c 36 s 6 are each amended to read  
11 as follows:

12           (1) Except under (f), (g), and (h) of this subsection, any  
13 commercial fertilizer distributed in this state shall have placed on or  
14 affixed to the package a label setting forth in clearly legible and  
15 conspicuous form the following information:

16           (a) The net weight;

17           (b) The product name, brand, and grade. The grade is not required  
18 if no primary nutrients are claimed;

1 (c) The guaranteed analysis;

2 (d) The name and address of the registrant or licensee. The name  
3 and address of the manufacturer, if different from the registrant or  
4 licensee, may also be stated;

5 (e) Any information required under WAC 296-62-054;

6 (f) (~~At a minimum~~) Except for specialty fertilizers, the  
7 following labeling statement: "This product has been registered with  
8 the Washington State Department of Agriculture. When applied as  
9 directed, this fertilizer meets the Washington standards for arsenic,  
10 cadmium, cobalt, mercury, molybdenum, lead, nickel, selenium, and zinc.  
11 You have the right to receive specific information about Washington  
12 standards from the distributor of this product.";

13 (g) Except for specialty fertilizers, after July 1, 1999, the label  
14 must also state: "Information received by the Washington State  
15 Department of Agriculture regarding the components in this product is  
16 available on the internet at <http://www.wa.gov/agr/>."; (~~and~~)

17 (h) For specialty fertilizers, the following labeling statement:  
18 "When applied as directed, this product meets the guidelines for metals  
19 adopted by the association of American plant food control officials";  
20 and

21 (i) Other information as required by the department by rule.

22 (2) If a commercial fertilizer is distributed in bulk, a written or  
23 printed statement of the information required by subsection (1) of this  
24 section shall accompany delivery and be supplied to the purchaser at  
25 the time of delivery.

26 (3) Each delivery of a customer-formula fertilizer shall be subject  
27 to containing those ingredients specified by the purchaser, which  
28 ingredients shall be shown on the statement or invoice with the amount  
29 contained therein, and a record of all invoices of customer-formula  
30 grade mixes shall be kept by the registrant or licensee for a period of  
31 twelve months and shall be available to the department upon request:  
32 PROVIDED, That each such delivery shall be accompanied by either a  
33 statement, invoice, a delivery slip, or a label if bagged, containing  
34 the following information: The net weight; the brand; the guaranteed  
35 analysis which may be stated to the nearest tenth of a percent or to  
36 the next lower whole number; the name and address of the registrant or  
37 licensee, or manufacturer, or both; and the name and address of the  
38 purchaser.

1       (4) Any person who distributes a commercial fertilizer in this  
2 state shall make available to the purchaser on request, a copy of  
3 standards for metals established in RCW 15.54.800.

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