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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 60 Session of  
2015

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INTRODUCED BY EMRICK, MILLARD, SANKEY, MURT, ROSS, BENNINGHOFF,  
MAJOR, MUSTIO, KORTZ, D. PARKER, GOODMAN AND MAHER,  
FEBRUARY 4, 2015

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY,  
FEBRUARY 4, 2015

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A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to review  
2 the Commonwealth's program for beneficial use of sewage  
3 sludge by land application.

4 WHEREAS, In 1997, the Commonwealth established regulations  
5 for the beneficial use of sewage sludge, more commonly referred  
6 to as biosolids, by land application; and

7 WHEREAS, The regulations are published under 25 Pa. Code Ch.  
8 271 Subch. J (relating to beneficial use of sewage sludge by  
9 land application); and

10 WHEREAS, Subchapter J establishes standards for general and  
11 individual land application of sewage sludge permits for the  
12 beneficial use of sewage sludge by land application; and

13 WHEREAS, The standards consist of general requirements,  
14 pollutant limits, management practices and operational  
15 standards; and

16 WHEREAS, Subchapter J also includes pathogen and alternative  
17 vector attraction reduction requirements; and

1       WHEREAS, The standards in Subchapter J include reporting  
2 requirements and the frequency of monitoring and recordkeeping  
3 requirements when biosolids are applied to the land for  
4 beneficial use; and

5       WHEREAS, A comprehensive review of the Commonwealth's program  
6 for the beneficial use of biosolids by land application has not  
7 been conducted since the study on land application of sewage  
8 sludge in Pennsylvania in 1997; therefore be it

9       RESOLVED, That the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee  
10 undertake a comprehensive review of the beneficial use of  
11 biosolids by land application and prepare a report of its  
12 findings which shall, at a minimum, identify all of the  
13 following:

14           (1) The methods currently used for biosolids use and  
15 disposal in this Commonwealth.

16           (2) The costs involved with current methods of biosolids  
17 use and disposal.

18           (3) The methods used to administer and enforce the  
19 program established under 25 Pa. Code Ch. 271 Subch. J by the  
20 Department of Environmental Protection.

21           (4) All appropriate alternatives to current use and  
22 disposal methods employed in this Commonwealth and in other  
23 states, particularly in regard to their economic feasibility  
24 and effects on the environment and on public health in  
25 comparison to current use and disposal methods;

26 and be it further

27       RESOLVED, That the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee  
28 make a report of its findings and recommendations to the House  
29 of Representatives within one year of adoption of this  
30 resolution.