
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 426 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY R. MILLER, HESS, MAJOR, WATSON, MICOZZIE,
C. HARRIS, FLECK, BENNINGHOFF, ROSS AND PETRI,
SEPTEMBER 3, 2013

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY,
SEPTEMBER 3, 2013

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 biosolids permits for the
12 beneficial use of biosolids 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
20 (relating to beneficial use of sewage sludge by land
21 application) by the Department of Environmental Protection.

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

27 and be it further

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

1 resolution.