



Dated: 3/30/11

## Phosphorus Fertilizer Bill Update

The fertilizer bill passed out of the Senate last Friday. Two amendments passed. The intent section was deleted and the exemption for organic fertilizer was deleted.

The bill will now go back to the House where they will either agree to the changes or refuse to agree and send it back to the Senate, asking for the amendments to be removed. There are four lobbyists who are upset about eliminating the organics exemption. They represent: The Scott's Company, Lilly Miller, Fred Meyer, and Perfect Blend Fertilizer. They will try to get the amendments reversed.

The full text of the bill as it now stands is:

<http://apps.leg.wa.gov/documents/billdocs/2011-12/Pdf/Amendments/Senate/1489-S.E%20AMS%20ENGR%20S2260.E.pdf>

(Only new section 2 and the parts that are underlined are new language, the rest is existing law. It applies only to fertilizer in bags that are labeled for turf use. It will not affect bulk sales or general purpose fertilizer.)

The vote count was:

Yeas: 32 Nays: 16 Absent: 0 Excused: 1

**Voting Yea:** Senators Baumgartner, Benton, Brown, Chase, Conway, Eide, Fain, Fraser, Hargrove, Harper, Hewitt, Hobbs, Kastama, Keiser, Kilmer, Kline, Kohl-Welles, Litzow, McAuliffe, Murray, Nelson, Parlette, Pflug, Prentice, Pridemore, Ranker, Regala, Rockefeller, Shin, Swecker, Tom, and White

**Voting Nay:** Senators Baxter, Becker, Carrell, Delvin, Ericksen, Hatfield, Haugen, Hill, Holmquist Newbry, Honeyford, King, Morton, Roach, Schoesler, Sheldon, and Zarelli

**Excused:** Senator Stevens

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