

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 14, 2012
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 14, 2012
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 3, 2012

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2011–12 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2174

Introduced by Assembly Member Alejo

February 23, 2012

An act to amend Section 14611 of the Food and Agricultural Code, relating to fertilizer.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2174, as amended, Alejo. Fertilizer: reduction of use.

Existing law requires a person who manufactures or distributes fertilizing materials to obtain a license from the Secretary of Food and Agriculture. Under existing law, a licensee whose name appears on the label who sells or distributes bulk fertilizing materials is required to pay specified fees for each dollar of sales, including an amount not to exceed \$0.001 per dollar of sales for all sales of fertilizing materials, to provide funding for research and education regarding the use and handling of fertilizing material, including, but not limited to, any environmental effects.

This bill would specify that ~~the use of the \$0.001 per dollar of sales fee is also~~ *may be used* for the support of specified *technical education and research* programs that result in more ~~efficient and~~ agronomically sound ~~use~~ *uses* of fertilizer materials and minimize the environmental impacts of fertilizer use, including, but not limited to, nitrates in groundwater ~~and emissions of greenhouse gases resulting from fertilizer use, for the support of research programs that increase awareness of~~

~~programs for efficient and agronomically sound use of fertilizer materials, and for the support of education on efficient and to increase awareness of more agronomically sound use uses of fertilizer materials products to reduce environmental impacts, as specified.~~

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 14611 of the Food and Agricultural Code
2 is amended to read:

3 14611. (a) A licensee whose name appears on the label who
4 sells or distributes bulk fertilizing materials, as defined in Sections
5 14517 and 14533, to unlicensed purchasers, shall pay to the
6 secretary an assessment not to exceed two mills (\$0.002) per dollar
7 of sales for all fertilizing materials. A licensee whose name appears
8 on the label of packaged fertilizing materials, as defined in Sections
9 14533 and 14551, shall pay to the secretary an assessment not to
10 exceed two mills (\$0.002) per dollar of sales. The secretary may,
11 based on the findings and recommendations of the board, reduce
12 the assessment rate to a lower rate that provides sufficient revenue
13 to carry out this chapter.

14 (b) In addition to the assessment provided in subdivision (a),
15 the secretary may impose an assessment in an amount not to exceed
16 one mill (\$0.001) per dollar of sales for all sales of fertilizing
17 materials, to provide funding for research and education regarding
18 the use and handling of fertilizing material, including, but not
19 limited to, support for University of California Cooperative
20 Extension, the California resource conservation districts, other
21 California institutions of postsecondary education, or other
22 qualified entities to develop programs in the following areas:

23 (1) Technical education for users of fertilizer materials in the
24 development and implementation of nutrient management projects
25 that result in ~~more efficient and agronomically sound use~~ *uses* of
26 fertilizer materials and minimize the environmental impacts of
27 fertilizer use, including, but not limited to, nitrates in groundwater
28 *and emissions of greenhouse gases resulting from fertilizer use.*

29 (2) Research to improve nutrient management practices resulting
30 in ~~more efficient and agronomically sound uses~~ of fertilizer
31 materials and to minimize the environmental impacts of fertilizer

1 use, including, but not limited to, nitrates in groundwater *and*
2 *emissions of greenhouse gases resulting from fertilizer use.*
3 (3) Education to increase awareness of ~~efficient and more~~
4 agronomically sound use of fertilizer products to reduce the
5 environmental impacts resulting from the ~~over-use~~ *overuse* or
6 inefficient use of fertilizing materials.

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