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An Act To Prohibit Aerial Spraying of Pesticides near Buildings, Roads and Bodies of Water

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §1471-Y is enacted to read:

§ 1471-Y. Prohibition on aerial spraying in certain areas

In addition to requirements for forest insect aerial spray projects under section 1471-R, the buffers established under this section apply to all applications of pesticides from aircraft.

1. Buffer for buildings. A person may not apply a pesticide within 300 feet of a school, hospital, nursing home, church, residence or any building occupied by humans at the time of the application.

2. Buffer for public way. A person may not apply a pesticide within 25 feet of the right-of-way of a public way as defined in Title 29-A, section 101, subsection 59.

3. Buffer for bodies of water. A person may not apply a pesticide over a body of water or within the shoreland area of a body of water as defined in rules adopted to regulate timber harvesting activities under Title 12, section 8867-B.

SUMMARY

This bill establishes buffers where aerial spraying of pesticides is prohibited.