

Amendment to LD 558
Resolve, Directing the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry To Study
Alternative Cropping Systems for Farmers Affected by Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl
Substances Contamination
Offered by Representative Pluecker
April 8, 2021

Amend the bill by striking out the title and replacing with the following:

Resolve, Directing the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry To Craft a Study Plan Relating To Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Contamination in the Agricultural Community

Amend the bill in section 1 as follows:

Sec. 1. Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry; alternative cropping systems. Resolved: That the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry shall develop a comprehensive research study plan to identify and aid farmers who are or may be affected by perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances contamination. The department shall develop the study plan in consultation with research partners, including, but not limited to the University of Maine; the University of Maine Cooperative Extension; the Department of Environmental Protection; and the Department of Health and Human Services, Center for Disease Control. In developing the study plan, the department may consult with a statewide organization working to protect the public and the environment from toxic chemicals and a statewide organization representing organic gardeners and farmers. The study plan must include research topic areas that may include alternative agricultural business planning including energy production and alternative cropping systems, study needs, possible roles of state agencies and research collaborators to conduct the work, proposed timeframes, proposed budget and target sources of funding. The department shall submit a report regarding the comprehensive research study plan, including findings and recommendations, to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry by February 1, 2022.

SUMMARY

This amendment strikes and replace the resolve. The amendment directs the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to develop a comprehensive research study plan to identify and aid farmers who are or may be affected by perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances contamination. The department is required to submit a report regarding the comprehensive research study plan to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry by February 1, 2022.