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> Majority Report OTP-A (Minority Report ONTP)

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT TO LD 1159, AN ACT TO AMEND THE MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS OF THE BOARD OF PESTICIDES CONTROL

Amend the bill in section 1 as follows:

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §1471-B, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2019, c. 192, §1, is further amended to read:

1. Board established. The Board of Pesticides Control is established by Title 5, section 12004-D, subsection 3, within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. Except as provided in this chapter, the board must be composed of 7 members, appointed by the Governor, subject to approval by the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over agricultural matters and confirmation by the Senate. To provide the knowledge and experience necessary for carrying out the duties of the board, the board must consist of the following members: one person with practical experience and knowledge regarding the agricultural use of chemicals; one person who has practical experience and knowledge regarding the use of chemicals in forest management; one person from the medical community; a scientist from the University of Maine System specializing in agronomy, entomology or plant pathology having practical experience and expertise in integrated pest management; one commercial applicator; and 2 persons appointed to represent the public. One of the The 2 members appointed to represent the public must have practical experience and knowledge of methods of sustainable management of indoor or outdoor pests a demonstrated interest in environmental protection and represent different geographic areas of the State. For purposes of this subsection, a member appointed to represent the public may not have a financial interest in the profession regulated by the board and may not be an individual who has been or is currently licensed, certified or given a permit in this or any other state for the profession this board regulates. The term must be for 4 years, except that of the initial appointees, 2 serve 4-year terms, 2 serve 3-year terms, 2 serve 2-year terms and one serves a one-year term. Any vacancy must be filled by an appointment for the remainder of the unexpired term.

SUMMARY

This amendment, which is the majority report, provides that the scientist from the University of Maine having practical experience and expertise in integrated pest management, who serves on the Board of Pesticides Control, must specialize in agronomy, entomology or plant pathology. The amendment also strikes the requirement in the bill that the two members of the board appointed to represent the public must represent different geographic areas of the state. Finally, the amendment specifies that a member of the board appointed to represent the public may not have a financial interest in the profession regulated by the board and may not be an individual who has been or is currently licensed, certified or given a permit in this or any other state for the profession the board regulates.