

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 01148**

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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PRESENTED BY:

*George N. Peterson, Jr.*

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*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:*

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to fertilizer.

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PETITION OF:

NAME:

*George N. Peterson, Jr.*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*9th Worcester*

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 01148

By Mr. George N. Peterson of Grafton, petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 01148) of George N. Peterson relative to the application and use of fertilizer. Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture.

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Eleven

An Act relative to fertilizer.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 2 of Chapter 128 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2008 Official  
2 Edition, is hereby amended by adding, after subsection (j), the following new subsection:-

3 (k) The Department of Agricultural Resources shall maintain exclusive authority to regulate and  
4 enforce the registration and application of plant nutrients put on or in soil to improve the quality  
5 or quantity of plant growth, including but not limited to fertilizer, manure, and micronutrients in  
6 the Commonwealth. Any rule, regulation, ordinance or bylaw of a city or town or any other  
7 political subdivision within the state purporting to regulate the application and use of fertilizer  
8 shall be void.

9 The Department shall work in conjunction with the University of Massachusetts Amherst  
10 Extension to ensure any such regulations of the Department are consistent with University of  
11 Massachusetts Amherst Extension program's published information, educational materials and

12 other public outreach programs relative to nutrient management and fertilizer guidelines;  
13 provided further, that subject to appropriation, the Department may establish regulations  
14 pursuant to this paragraph which shall be developed in consultation with the University of  
15 Massachusetts Amherst Extension.