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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2017

SENATE RESOLUTION

CREATING A SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY PESTICIDE CONTROL
REGULATIONS

Introduced By: Senators Sosnowski, Coyne, Calkin, Kettle, and Conley

Date Introduced: June 21, 2017

Referred To: Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar

1 WHEREAS, Pesticides are valuable to our state's agricultural production and to the
2 protection of human life and the environment from harmful insects, rodents, weeds, and other
3 forms of life which may be pests; and

4 WHEREAS, It is essential to the public health and welfare that they be regulated to
5 prevent potential adverse effects on humans, animals and beneficial insects in addition to the
6 environment; and

7 WHEREAS, New pesticides are continually being discovered, synthesized, or developed
8 which are valuable for the control of harmful pests and for use as defoliant, desiccant, and plant
9 regulators; and

10 WHEREAS, Some of these pesticides may be ineffective, may cause injury to humans,
11 animals and beneficial insects, or may cause unreasonable adverse effects on the environment if
12 not properly used; and

13 WHEREAS, The Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management regulates the
14 proper availability and use of pesticides in the state; now, therefore be it

15 RESOLVED, That a special legislative commission to be known as the "Commission to
16 Study Pesticide Control Regulations" be and the same is hereby created consisting of eleven (11)
17 members to be appointed by the President of the Senate: three (3) of whom shall be members of
18 the Senate, one of whom shall serve as the chairperson of the commission; one of whom shall be
19 a representative of the Environment Council of Rhode Island; one of whom shall be a

1 representative of the agriculture industry; one of whom shall be a representative of the Rhode
2 Island Nursery and Landscape Association; one of whom shall be a representative of the pest
3 control industry; one of whom shall be a licensed arborist; one of whom shall be a representative
4 of the golf industry; one of whom shall be a representative of the pesticide manufacturing
5 industry; and one of whom shall be a professor with botanical expertise from the University of
6 Rhode Island.

7 The purpose of said commission shall be to review all pesticide control regulations and
8 make recommendations to the Senate to update and strengthen the governance of the use of
9 pesticides in Rhode Island.

10 Forthwith upon passage of this resolution, the members of the commission shall meet at
11 the call of the Chairperson of the commission.

12 Vacancies in said commission shall be filled in like manner as the original appointment.

13 The commission shall assemble no less than four (4) times, or more often at the call of
14 the Chairperson, upon written notice of each meeting stating the place, day, and time of the
15 meeting along with the purpose and/or agenda of the meeting.

16 A quorum of the Commission shall consist of a majority of its membership and the
17 membership shall receive no compensation for their services.

18 All departments and agencies of the state shall furnish such advice and information,
19 documentary and otherwise, to said commission and its agents as is deemed necessary or
20 desirable by the commission to facilitate the purposes of this resolution; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That the commission shall report its findings and recommendations to the
22 President of the Senate no later than March 1, 2018, and said commission shall expire on June 1,
23 2018.

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