
OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 917

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE USE OF CERTAIN MICROBIAL AND BIOCHEMICAL PESTICIDES AND GRUB CONTROL PRODUCTS ON SCHOOL GROUNDS.

SUMMARY:

The law generally prohibits the application of lawn care pesticide on the grounds of any day care center, or public or private preschool or school with students in grade eight or lower, except in a health emergency.

This bill exempts the following products from the definition of “lawn care pesticide,” thus allowing their application on the grounds of day care centers and these schools:

1. microbial or biochemical pesticides;
2. horticultural soaps or oils without synthetic pesticide or synergist (enhancer of pesticide properties); and
3. grub control products without a caution, warning, or danger indication on their product labels.

The products must be registered with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to qualify under the exemption.

Current law defines “lawn care pesticide” as a pesticide that is registered with the EPA and labeled according to federal law for use in lawns, gardens, and ornamental sites.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

MICROBIAL AND BIOCHEMICAL PESTICIDE

Under the bill, a “microbial pesticide” is a pesticide containing a microorganism as the active ingredient, and a “biochemical pesticide”

is a naturally occurring substance that controls pests by nontoxic means.

For purposes of the law on pesticide application at day care centers and schools, a “pesticide” is a fungicide used on plants, insecticide, herbicide, or rodenticide, but not a sanitizer, disinfectant, antimicrobial agent, or pesticide bait.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 28 Nay 0 (03/04/2013)