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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4021**

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**State of Washington                      56th Legislature                      2000 Regular Session**

**By** House Committee on Agriculture & Ecology (originally sponsored by Representatives Linville, G. Chandler, Dickerson, Kessler, Cody, Lovick, Lantz, Wood and Anderson)

Read first time 02/04/2000. Referred to Committee on .

1            TO THE HONORABLE WILLIAM J. CLINTON, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED  
2 STATES, AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE  
3 OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF  
4 THE UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, AND TO THE ADMINISTRATOR OF  
5 THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY:

6            We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of  
7 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully  
8 represent and petition as follows:

9            WHEREAS, In 1997 and 1998, the legislative and executive branches  
10 of the State of Washington examined on behalf of Washington citizens  
11 issues regarding the nonnutrient content of commercial fertilizers,  
12 including heavy metals; and

13            WHEREAS, Following this examination, the Legislature led the nation  
14 in addressing these issues by enacting legislation that strengthened  
15 the state's fertilizer laws and enhanced the protection of human  
16 health, the environment, and agricultural production by establishing  
17 standards for the nonnutrient content of commercial fertilizers and  
18 authorizing additional standards; by regulating the use of waste  
19 materials in the production of commercial fertilizers; by providing  
20 information to those who use commercial fertilizers regarding the

1 nonnutrient content of commercial fertilizers; and by directing that  
2 additional technical studies be conducted regarding such materials; and

3 WHEREAS, In 1999, the Legislature again addressed these issues by  
4 ensuring that the standards, information, and protections afforded by  
5 its earlier legislation were safeguarded while facilitating the  
6 intrastate, interstate, and international movement of commercial  
7 fertilizers that satisfy this state's requirements;

8 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that Congress  
9 further the objectives sought by the Legislature of the State of  
10 Washington and apply the benefits of those objectives nation-wide by  
11 enacting legislation that: Requires packaged commercial fertilizer to  
12 be labeled to make information regarding the nonnutrient content of the  
13 fertilizer, including heavy metals, available to purchasers; requires  
14 such information to be available to purchasers of bulk fertilizer; and  
15 establishes national standards for the nonnutrient content of  
16 commercial fertilizers.

17 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately  
18 transmitted to the Honorable William J. Clinton, President of the  
19 United States, the Administrator of the United States Environmental  
20 Protection Agency, the President of the United States Senate, the  
21 Speaker of the House of Representatives, and each member of Congress  
22 from the State of Washington.

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