



*and Subsidiaries*

The Honorable Elder A Vogel, Jr  
Chairman, Senate Committee on Agriculture and Rural Affairs  
Pennsylvania State Senate  
Senate Box 203047  
Room 362 Main Capitol  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-3076

March 22, 2021

Dear Chairman Vogel:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Senate Bill 251, relating to fertilizer.

The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company is the world's largest marketer and distributor of lawn and garden products, operating for over 150 years. Scotts Miracle-Gro has been a leader in product innovation, policy discussions, and public awareness focused on turf management and water quality issues.

We appreciate the time and effort that has been invested in the legislation. We believe it is based on science. Scotts Miracle-Gro was pleased to participate in the process of drafting this proposal and we appreciate that our comments were taken into consideration.

As a fertilizer manufacturer we know the importance of applying fertilizer in order to maintain a healthy lawn. It is to our advantage if consumers use the products as directed and as they are intended and we are glad to support responsible application. The requirements in the legislation are reasonable and aligned with neighboring states. The rates would allow fertilizer applications that can promote healthy lawns. We support responsible fertilizer use.

We greatly appreciate the insertion of preemption language. As a national distributor of fertilizer, we maintain compliance with state regulations, however, local requirements are often too onerous to incorporate onto a multi-state product label. We appreciate the Department of Agriculture working to generate requirements rather than localities that often lack the scientific background to enact appropriate conditions.

We agree that the most powerful tool to help our waterways is education. Providing guidance on proper fertilizer use is the best way to help consumers do their part to protect water quality when working in their yards. We have created several platforms for consumers to be educated on the proper use and application of fertilizers. In addition, there are numerous videos on YouTube providing education on the correct methods for fertilizer application and use of Scotts products and spreaders. We pledge our support to continue to help educate consumers about responsible fertilizer usage and look forward to working with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, and academic experts in Pennsylvania to enhance consumer education efforts.

January 30, 2020

We appreciate the opportunity to discuss this legislation with you. Thank you again for your time and efforts on this important issue. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Luria". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a horizontal line extending from the end.

Robert Luria  
Manager, Government Relations  
The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company