

HOUSE BILL 511

M4

9lr1523

By: **Delegate Cassilly**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2019

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Commercial Fertilizer Law – Definition of Soil Conditioner –**
3 **Alteration**

4 FOR the purpose of altering the definition of “soil conditioner” to include the digestate
5 produced by anaerobic digestion for purposes of the Maryland Commercial Fertilizer
6 Law; and generally relating to the Maryland Commercial Fertilizer Law.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
8 Article – Agriculture
9 Section 6–201(a)
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2016 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
13 Article – Agriculture
14 Section 6–201(cc)
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2016 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

17 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
18 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

19 **Article – Agriculture**

20 6–201.

21 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

22 (cc) (1) “Soil conditioner” means any substance or mixture of substances
23 intended for sale, offered for sale, or distributed for:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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- 1 (i) Manurial, soil enriching, or soil corrective purposes;
- 2 (ii) Promoting or stimulating the growth of plants;
- 3 (iii) Increasing the productivity of plants;
- 4 (iv) Improving the quality of crops; or
- 5 (v) Producing any chemical or physical change in the soil, except a
6 commercial fertilizer, unmanipulated animal and vegetable manures, agricultural liming
7 material, and gypsum.

8 (2) "Soil conditioner" includes but is not limited to materials such as
9 compost, peat, vermiculite, [or] perlite, **OR DIGESTATE PRODUCED BY ANAEROBIC**
10 **DIGESTION** that are incorporated into the soil.

11 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
12 October 1, 2019.