

By Mr. Minahan of Wakefield, petition of Alfred A. Minahan, Jr., for legislation to permit the burning or composting of grass, hay or leaves. Natural Resources and Agriculture.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-Four.

AN ACT TO PERMIT THE BURNING OR COMPOSTING OF GRASS, HAY, OR LEAVES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of section one
2 hundred and forty-two A or section one hundred and forty-two B
3 of Chapter one hundred and eleven of the General Laws or any
4 other law or regulation to the contrary, any person during the
5 period from November first to December first and from April first
6 to May first of each year may conduct, except within the South-
7 eastern Massachusetts air pollution control district, the open burn-
8 ing of natural organic products including grass, hay, or leaves. Said
9 person shall obtain a permit as provided in section thirteen of
10 Chapter forty-eight of the General Laws. Such permit shall be valid
11 except on days when the department of public health determines
12 that atmospheric ventilation will be unsuitable, or that air stagna-
13 tion is forecast in the specific area, and for a time specified in the
14 permit.

15 Such open burning shall be performed in accordance with the
16 following requirements: —

- 17 a.) Without causing a nuisance;
- 18 b.) With smoke minimizing fire starters, if fire starters are neces-
19 sary;
- 20 c.) Between ten o'clock antemeridian and four o'clock post-
21 meridian;
- 22 d.) On land proximate to the place of generations of such prod-
23 ucts or at such other place as may be designated in the permit.

1 SECTION 2. Notwithstanding the provisions of section forty
2 and section forty A of Chapter one hundred and thirty-one of the
3 General Laws, a city or town may deposit grass, hay, or leaves on
4 municipally owned land subject to restrictions as provided in the
5 above-described sections for purposes of composting, but not for
6 purposes of land fill.

1 SECTION 3. The foregoing sections shall become effective
2 upon passage of this Act.