

Mulch & Soil Council

Legislative Report Orientation

The object of the MSC legislative reporting program is to track legislation in the 50 states and provide members with Advanced Warning of bills that can help or hurt your business. State governments can move much faster than Federal legislation, and new developments in a state or region can spread to other states or regions very quickly.

It takes a lot of resources to monitor even your own state and most MSC members don't sell in just one state. The Mulch & Soil Council Legislative Reporting Program is designed to help members save time and money by cutting through the massive volume of legislative bills and reports and distilling the legalese down to the key points members are concerned about. THEN you can decide if you want to call your state representatives and take action to support or oppose laws that will affect your profitability.

Below is a sample legislative report and an explanation of how the report can be used. This report has only one legislative item; however, most reports will contain multiple state legislative bills being tracked. Each part of the report has functional benefits to help you cut through the information clutter and focus on items that most impact your business.

1. Edit Report : Legislative Map : : Hot Bills

2. MULCH & SOIL COUNCIL

3. Northeast Report
Friday, May 08, 2015

4. Email

5. legicrawler legicrawler

Full Text	Brief Description and Current Status	History
4. CTSB00941	1 An Act DELAYING IMPLEMENTATION OF CERTAIN STANDARDS AND SAMPLING REQUIREMENTS UPON THE DETECTION OF POLLUTANTS CAUSING CONTAMINATION OF SOIL, GROUNDWATER OR PUBLIC OR PRIVATE DRINKING WATER WELLS. Section 1. (Effective June 30, 2015) Sections 31 and 32 of public act 13-308 shall take effect July 1, 2016. Status: 5/6/2015 : Moved to Foot of the Calendar, Senate	History 9
5. Text	6. Proposed delay of self reporting of soil, well or ground water pollution until July 2017. 7.	8. Updated 2015 05/06 Heat Index = 7 10

LEGEND

- Item #1 provides clickable links in each report that display a map of legislative activities for the region and a graphic scale of which legislation is "hot", meaning it is moving fast through the legislative process.
- Item #2 identifies the region covered by the legislative report. A map of MSC legislative regions is available on the MSC website in the Members-Only area under legislative programs.
- Item #3 is an Email link that allows members to forward the report to other team members in their company.
- Item #4 is the legislative bill number. The first 2 characters indicate the state. The next 2 characters indicate House or Senate bill and the last 5 numbers are the actual bill number. In the example, this is Connecticut Senate Bill #941.
- Item #5 is an active link to the full text of the actual bill. If it is blank, check the History link (Item #9).
- Item #6 is a display of the state flag to help scan and identify specific state legislation. It is not clickable.
- Item #7 is the state description of the bill that also includes its current status in many states. Note that state bill descriptions can be very misleading regarding their actual content.
- Item #8: READ THIS FIRST! This section is MSC staff's review of the bill that very briefly notes items that may be of interest specifically to mulch & soil producers or their customers. We identify the key points of the legislation saving you the time of wading through legalese before you know if the bill will impact your business. Then you can decide if the bill deserves your added attention.**
- Item #9 is a clickable link to the history of the bill and how it has moved through the legislative process.
- Item #10 is the "HEAT RATING" for the bill indicating how much interest and support it is receiving.
 - 0-4 rating indicates slow or no action.
 - 5-7 rating indicates the bill is moving moderately to a vote.
 - 8-9 rating indicates a **HOT Bill** moving quickly with significant support that will likely come to a vote soon.

For answers to questions or assistance in effectively using the MSC Legislative Reports, contact the Council office at info@mulchandsoilcouncil.org or call 806.832.1810.