

2025 -- H 5844

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LC001674  
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2025

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A N A C T

RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION -- WATER POLLUTION

Introduced By: Representatives Cortvriend, McGaw, Speakman, Fogarty, Kislak,  
Carson, and Morales

Date Introduced: February 28, 2025

Referred To: House Environment and Natural Resources

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1           SECTION 1. Chapter 46-12 of the General Laws entitled "Water Pollution" is hereby  
2 amended by adding thereto the following section:

3           **46-12-42. Testing of biosolids.**

4           (a) Any applicant seeking an order of approval from the department of environmental  
5 management for the distribution or land application of biosolids shall test its biosolids for PFAS  
6 contaminants, as that term is defined by § 46-32-2, and the results shall be submitted to the  
7 department with the application for the order of approval.

8           (b) Any operators with an existing order of approval for the distribution or land application  
9 of biosolids shall test its biosolids quarterly for PFAS contaminants, as that term is defined by §  
10 46-32-2, and submit the results to the department by the last day of each calendar quarter. Sampling  
11 shall commence during the October 2025 to December 2025 quarter, with the first round of results  
12 submitted to the department no later than December 31, 2025.

13           (c) The director is authorized to reject any application for an order of approval on the basis  
14 that approval of said application would pose an environmental threat or pose a risk to public health,  
15 safety, or welfare.

16           SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
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RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION -- WATER POLLUTION

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1           This act would require persons seeking to apply biosolids to lands to test the biosolids for  
2 PFAS contaminants on a quarterly basis and report those findings to the department of  
3 environmental management. This act would authorize the director to reject applications seeking  
4 distribution of biosolids to lands for environmental threat or risk to public health, safety, or welfare.

5           This act would take effect upon passage.

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