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House Bill 5129
Sponsor: Rep. John Bennett
Committee: Agriculture

Complete to 11-26-90

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 5129 AS INTRODUCED 10-2-89

The bill would create a new act to require that all fruits and vegetables sold in Michigan be labeled to show the type of pesticide (including plant regulators) or other chemical substance used in growing the produce and to impose civil fines for violations of the bill.

The Department of Agriculture would establish by rule a list of chemical substances other than pesticides that would be included under the bill's labeling requirements, and would have to include substances that had an adverse impact on human health. Someone who violated the bill could be fined a minimum of \$5,000 for each violation, and unlabeled produce could be confiscated and destroyed by the department. Failure to pay a fine or costs ordered under the bill could be remedied by any means authorized under the Revised Judicature Act.

The bill also would include a number of definitions, including a definition of "pesticide" that would include plant regulators, defoliants, and desiccants, and a definition of "plant regulator" that would exempt from the definition substances "intended as plant nutrients, trace elements, nutritional chemicals, plant inoculants, and soil amendments."

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