

The Florida Senate  
**HOUSE MESSAGE SUMMARY**

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BILL: CS/SB 1952  
INTRODUCER: Commerce Committee and Senator Diaz de la Portilla  
SUBJECT: The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services  
PREPARED BY: Senate Committee on Commerce  
DATE: May 2, 2007

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**I. Amendments Contained in Message:**

**House Amendment 1 - 528133** (body with title)

**House Amendment 2 - 691271** (body with title)

**II. Summary of Amendments Contained in Message:**

**House Amendment 1** This amendment is the substance of SB 1862 (which passed the Senate 4/25/07) & HB 979, an act relating to Chamber of Commerce / Use of Term. The amendment defines the term “Chamber of Commerce” and prohibits a business entity that does not qualify as a chamber of commerce from using the term in its business name or to describe itself.

The bill specifies that unauthorized use of the term “chamber of commerce” is a first-degree misdemeanor. A chamber of commerce is authorized to enjoin an entity improperly using the term from continuing to do so.

**House Amendment 2** This amendment creates the 13 member Consumer Fertilizer Task Force within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS) to address the proper use of non-agricultural fertilizers and local regulation related to such non-agricultural fertilizers.

The task force will be staffed by DACS, and the department states that it can provide these services without additional resources from the Legislature.

The task force shall consist of

- 3 members appointed by the President of the Senate,
  - a representative from the Department of Environmental Protection,
  - a representative of the environmental community, and
  - a member of the Senate;
- 3 members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives,
  - a representative from a water management district,
  - a representative of the University of Florida's Institute for Food and Agricultural Sciences, and
  - a member of the House of Representatives;
- 5 members appointed by the Commissioner of Agriculture,
  - a representative from the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services,

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- a representative from the Office of Agricultural Water Policy,
  - a representative from the national fertilizer industry,
  - a representative from the Florida-based fertilizer industry, and
  - a registered landscape architect;
  - 1 member appointed by the Florida League of Cities, Inc., and
  - 1 member appointed by the Florida Association of Counties.

No travel reimbursement or per diem is authorized for task force members.