

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, immediately after the passage of this Act, or as soon thereafter as may be, and biennially thereafter, shall appoint one person, a citizen of this State, of suitable character and ability, who shall be styled "Inspector of Fertilizers," who shall discharge the duties prescribed in the following sections of this Act, and who shall hold his office for two years, until his successor shall have been appointed and duly qualified; and in case of a vacancy from death, resignation or removal from office or otherwise, occurring during the recess between the regular sessions of the Legislature, the Governor shall fill such vacancy until the next regular session of the Legislature.

SEC. 2. *And be it enacted,* That the said Inspector, before entering upon the discharge of the duties of his office, shall take and subscribe to the oath or affirmation prescribed in the sixth section of Article one, of the Constitution of this State, and give bond, to be approved by the Comptroller of the State, in the sum of ten thousand dollars, for the faithful discharge of the duties of his office, which said bond shall be filed in the office of said Comptroller.

SEC. 3. *And be it enacted,* That it shall be the duty of the said Inspector to have analyzed, in the manner hereinafter prescribed, all artificially manufactured or manipulated fertilizers, imported or brought into, or manufactured in the State of Maryland for sale, on and after the first day of April, eighteen hundred and seventy; and to ascertain, by chemical analysis, the percentage, by weight, of all the valuable constituents in said fertilizers, and whether in a soluble or insoluble form, and also any other constituents, properties or circumstances which may affect their value as fertilizers of the soil.

SEC. 4. And whereas, it is highly important to the agricultural interests of the State that the inspections and analysis of the aforesaid fertilizers should be accurate and reliable; therefore,

*Be it enacted,* That the said Inspector, in drawing or selecting the samples from which to ascertain by chemical analysis the percentage of their valuable constituents, shall select, or draw from any given quantity of such fertilizer, submitted to him for inspection and analysis, at least ten samples, and as many more as to him may appear necessary, for the purposes of this Act, from different parts of the bulk to be inspected, or from the different bags, barrels, boxes or other packages, taken promiscuously, and these samples, thus selected, shall be mixed thoroughly together, and a sample or samples taken from the mixture, from which the chemical analysis and inspection shall be made.