

Al Adam
Mayor

August 8, 2020

The Honorable Richard Bloom
California State Assembly
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0050

RE: AB 1788- PESTICIDES: USE OF ANTICOAGULANTS– SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Bloom:

On behalf of the City of Thousand Oaks, I am writing to express support for AB 1788. The bill would establish the California Ecosystems Protect Act of 2019 for the purpose of expanding prohibitions on the use pesticides with specific anticoagulants to the entire state. Current law prohibits its use in wildlife habitat areas. We appreciate exemptions for key agricultural activities such as food storage, agricultural production, factories, and even wineries.

Rodenticides are poisons commonly used to exterminate various types of rodents including, but not limited to, rats, gophers, and ground squirrels. Rodenticides that utilize second-generation anticoagulants (SGARs) have become a major cause for concern because of their potential for secondary effects to domestic and wildlife animals. Rodenticides with anticoagulants contain lethal substances (*brodifacoum, difethialone, bromadiolone, or difenacoum*) and are often manufactured in small pellets or grains. Rodents that consume these poisons may in turn be consumed by household pets and wild animals, which may then become sick or die as a secondary victim of the anticoagulant baits. Wild animals such as mountain lions, coyotes, bobcats, owls and hawks are vulnerable to the collateral damage of anticoagulant rodenticides.

The National Park Service, which monitors approximately 60 mountain lions in nearby Santa Monica Mountains which abuts the City's open space. The National Park Service has confirmed 14 lions have tested positive for exposure to anticoagulant rodenticides. Of the 14 three have died as result of exposure to lethal doses of anticoagulant rodenticides. Local jurisdictions do not have the legal authority to adopt/enforce a mandatory ban on anticoagulants. The EPA and the State Department of Pesticide Regulation have the sole discretion to regulate these products. We support greater restriction on pesticides that contain SCARs to protect both wildlife and domestic animals.

Sincerely,



Al Adam
Mayor

C: Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin
Senator Henry Stern
David Mullinax- Regional Public Affairs Manager, dmullinax@cacities.org
League of California Cities, cityletters@cacities.org
Joe A. Gonsalves and Son