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My Opposition to Anticoagulant Rodenticide Exemption Expansion

Anticoagulant rodenticides should be banned entirely without expanded exemptions. Despite current restrictions, these poisons continue to kill non-target wildlife—including mountain lions, bobcats, owls, and endangered San Joaquin kit foxes—through secondary poisoning that causes painful internal bleeding.

Expanding their use to previously prohibited locations like restaurants and grocery stores would reverse years of conservation progress and weaken California's wildlife protections. The proposed allowance for use exceeding 100 days annually would significantly increase environmental exposure and ecological damage.

California has viable alternatives that make these cruel poisons unnecessary. Integrated Pest Management approaches—including building sealing, elimination of food and water sources, and non-toxic controls like contraceptives, snap traps, and electric traps—offer humane and cost-effective pest control. For genuine public health emergencies, the Department of Pesticide Regulation already possesses authority to grant limited exemptions, ensuring responsible crisis management without routine reliance on toxic rodenticides.