

Nickolaus Sackett

I write on behalf of Social Compassion in Legislation and our thousands of supporters in California. We urge the Department of Pesticide Regulation to adopt a full ban on anticoagulant rodenticides. These poisons cause prolonged, agonizing deaths and continue to harm California's wildlife — including mountain lions, bobcats, raptors, and endangered San Joaquin kit foxes — even under existing restrictions. Despite recent legal progress from 2020 – 2024 through AB 1788, AB 1322, and AB 2552, testing and necropsy data show that non-target poisonings persist across the state.

These laws were enacted to protect California's wildlife from indiscriminate poisoning, and I support maintaining — not weakening — those protections. Expanding anticoagulant use by increasing the scope of exemptions would ignore clear scientific evidence and undermine years of work to safeguard our ecosystems.

There are proven, cost-effective alternatives: securing buildings, removing food and water sources, and using non-toxic controls like contraceptives, snap traps, and electric traps. These methods address infestations without endangering wildlife or public health.

California should lead with science and compassion by ending the use of all anticoagulant rodenticides, allowing only narrow emergency exemptions when absolutely necessary, as is already the law.