

Bara Sapir

Subject: Protect California Wildlife — Keep Anticoagulant Rodenticide Restrictions in Place

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing to urge you to oppose any expansion or exemptions for anticoagulant rodenticides in California. These poisons are devastating to our ecosystems — killing not only their intended targets but also countless non-target animals through secondary poisoning. Even under current restrictions, mountain lions, bobcats, owls, and endangered San Joaquin kit foxes continue to suffer and die from internal bleeding after ingesting contaminated prey.

Expanding the use of these toxic chemicals, especially into sensitive areas like restaurants and grocery stores, where they are currently prohibited, would erase years of hard-won progress and undermine California's landmark wildlife protection laws. Allowing their use for more than 100 days per year, as proposed, would further magnify the risk of exposure and ecological harm.

California does not need to rely on cruel, outdated poisons. We have effective, humane, and science-based alternatives through Integrated Pest Management (IPM): sealing entry points, removing food and water sources, and using non-toxic tools such as contraceptives, snap traps, and electric traps. These methods protect both public health and wildlife — without inflicting unnecessary suffering.

In rare, verified emergencies, the Department of Pesticide Regulation already has the authority to grant temporary exemptions to address genuine public health risks. There is no need to broaden access to these deadly poisons.

Please uphold California's commitment to science, compassion, and ecological balance by rejecting any proposal to expand the use of anticoagulant rodenticides.

With gratitude for your leadership and attention to this urgent issue,

Warmly,

Bara Sapir
Animal Advocates of Contra Costa County