

I'm writing to strongly recommend against approving >100 days of anticoagulant rodenticide as proposed by the California Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR). Anticoagulant rodenticide toxins are non-selective, meaning they not only kill rodents, but they kill their predators (owls, hawks, foxes, bobcats, coyotes), and also domestic animals (dogs and cats). As a veterinarian, I have seen many cases of cats and dogs needing emergency care, because they had eaten these rodenticides. The rodenticide toxins are lethal not only to rodents but to other species that we do not want to harm.

Anticoagulants are currently only legally allowed if there is a public health or environmental emergency. This should be the only case where such toxic substances are allowed. They are too easily eaten by the non-targeted species.

We Californians have already stated that we want poison-free solutions to rodent control. There are 3 laws: AB 1788 (state-wide restriction of 2nd generation anticoagulant rodenticides), AB 2552 (which strengthens protections and mandates safer practices), and AB 1322 (which updated labeling and enforcements). These laws must not be rolled back or undermined.

If California truly prides itself on being a role-model for other states, especially when it comes to safety and protection of our wildlife (and pets), then we should strive to use effective, ecological rodent control, that does not inadvertently kill non-targeted species.

Let's not regress in the progress we have achieved in protecting the many varied and sometimes sensitive ecological niches we have in our beautiful state.