

March 10, 2024

TO: House Committee on Municipal Government and Housing

RE: HB 5704 - Pesticide Control

Dear House Committee on Municipal Government and Housing,

I am writing in support of HB 5074 which I understand will limit the use of Anticoagulant Rodenticides in Rhode Island. After living through the era of DDT's widespread damage to the environment we find ourselves again in the position of recognizing the dangers of another chemical killer only after it has already done serious damage to the environment and negatively affected the lives of the wildlife that surrounds us. Indeed, it is more than likely that it will be found to be damaging our own lives and life expectancy.

I urge you to recommend the swift passage of HB 5074. I hope that prompt passage of this bill will serve to remove these dangerous chemicals from the environment around us more quickly than we acted in past decades to remove DDT and limit the consequences of our misguided actions toward the creatures with which we share the planet.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "James M. O'Neill". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and address.

James M. O'Neill
74 Aaron Avenue
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