

March 10, 2025

TO: House Committee on Municipal Government

RE: HB 5704 – Pesticide Control

Dear House Committee on Municipal Government and Housing,

I am writing to strongly support HB 5704 which will stop the use of nondiscriminatory lethal rodenticides in Rhode Island.

Safer and effective alternatives to Anticoagulant Rodenticides (ARs) exist that work to combat rodent populations, without killing non-target native birds, especially birds of prey such as owls, hawks and eagles, as well as mammals, amphibians and reptiles.

When walking along the Woonasquatucket River, I have seen dozens of AR black bait boxes near businesses and residences. I worry for the resident hawks in my neighborhood which can be seen hunting for their prey along this river.

The use ARs are counterproductive to achieving and maintaining a healthy environment for people and wildlife.

Please support HB 5704.

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