

RE: Support H 7222 – Rodenticide Ban and Municipal Pilot Program

Dear Representative Stephan Casey and Members of the House Committee on Municipal Government and Housing,

I urge you to pass H-7222. This bill would phase in a ban on a class of rat poisons which is killing raptors, poisoning waterways, and devastating our ecosystem. More effective alternatives are available and are currently in use at other locations.

The boxes of rat poisons littering our cities and towns have not been effective against mice and rats. Instead they are poisoning and killing predators who eat the rats and mice, including owls, hawks, and eagles. The raptors themselves help to control the rodent population. There are more effective rat poisons which are less harmful to wildlife and are used elsewhere.

House Bill 7222 would provide an effective approach to rodent control, while protecting wildlife and the environment. It would support municipalities in developing safe rodent control alternatives without impacting the state budget. It would restrict the sale of the harmful poisons and then ban them on January 1st, 2029. It would provide important exemptions for agriculture and breweries, and for municipalities in the event of a public health crisis.

I urge you to support H-7222, which would control the rodents overwhelming our communities while protecting the environment and our ecosystem. It would make our communities safer for residents and especially for our children.

Sincerely,

Joan Ramos
Cramston, Rhode Island