

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3991**

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***James K. Hawkins***

*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:*

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to pesticides.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>James K. Hawkins</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>	<i>4/30/2021</i>
<i>Katrina Bergman, New England Wildlife Center</i>	<i>500 Columbian St., Weymouth, MA. 02190</i>	<i>6/4/2021</i>
<i>Laura Hagen</i>	<i>Humane Society of the United States, 203 Washington Street, PMB 186, Salem, MA. 01970</i>	<i>4/30/2021</i>
<i>Stephanie J. Harris</i>	<i>Animal Legal Defense Fund, 525 East Cotati Avenue, Cotati, CA. 94931</i>	<i>4/30/2021</i>
<i>Kara L. Holmquist</i>	<i>Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, 350 S. Huntington Ave., Boston, MA. 02130</i>	<i>4/30/2021</i>
<i>Martin Dagoberto L. Driggs</i>	<i>Northeast Organic Farming Association/ MA Chapter, P.O. Box 60043, Florence, MA. 01062</i>	<i>4/30/2021</i>
<i>Lisa Owens Viani</i>	<i>Raptors Are The Solution   A Project of Earth Island Institute, 2150 Allston Way, Suite 460, Berkeley, CA. 94704</i>	<i>4/30/2021</i>
<i>Heidi Ricci</i>	<i>Mass Audubon, 208 South Great</i>	<i>4/30/2021</i>

	<i>Road, Lincoln, MA. 01733</i>	
<i>Patricia A. Haddad</i>	<i>5th Bristol</i>	<i>5/5/2021</i>
<i>David F. DeCoste</i>	<i>5th Plymouth</i>	<i>5/6/2021</i>
<i>Patricia A. Duffy</i>	<i>5th Hampden</i>	<i>5/6/2021</i>
<i>Carol A. Doherty</i>	<i>3rd Bristol</i>	<i>5/6/2021</i>
<i>Alan Silvia</i>	<i>7th Bristol</i>	<i>5/6/2021</i>
<i>Michelle L. Ciccolo</i>	<i>15th Middlesex</i>	<i>5/6/2021</i>
<i>Paul A. Schmid, III</i>	<i>8th Bristol</i>	<i>5/6/2021</i>
<i>Carmine Lawrence Gentile</i>	<i>13th Middlesex</i>	<i>5/6/2021</i>
<i>Mike Connolly</i>	<i>26th Middlesex</i>	<i>5/6/2021</i>
<i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>	<i>5/6/2021</i>
<i>Joanne M. Comerford</i>	<i>Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester</i>	<i>5/6/2021</i>
<i>Adam J. Scanlon</i>	<i>14th Bristol</i>	<i>5/6/2021</i>
<i>Thomas M. Stanley</i>	<i>9th Middlesex</i>	<i>5/6/2021</i>
<i>Christopher Hendricks</i>	<i>11th Bristol</i>	<i>5/6/2021</i>
<i>Steven C. Owens</i>	<i>29th Middlesex</i>	<i>5/6/2021</i>
<i>Steven S. Howitt</i>	<i>4th Bristol</i>	<i>5/6/2021</i>
<i>Christina A. Minicucci</i>	<i>14th Essex</i>	<i>5/6/2021</i>
<i>Natalie M. Higgins</i>	<i>4th Worcester</i>	<i>5/6/2021</i>
<i>Tram T. Nguyen</i>	<i>18th Essex</i>	<i>5/6/2021</i>
<i>Danillo A. Sena</i>	<i>37th Middlesex</i>	<i>5/7/2021</i>
<i>Christine P. Barber</i>	<i>34th Middlesex</i>	<i>5/7/2021</i>
<i>Joan B. Lovely</i>	<i>Second Essex</i>	<i>5/7/2021</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>	<i>5/7/2021</i>
<i>Daniel M. Donahue</i>	<i>16th Worcester</i>	<i>5/10/2021</i>
<i>Paul R. Feeney</i>	<i>Bristol and Norfolk</i>	<i>5/10/2021</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>	<i>5/10/2021</i>
<i>Sean Garballey</i>	<i>23rd Middlesex</i>	<i>5/12/2021</i>
<i>Tommy Vitolo</i>	<i>15th Norfolk</i>	<i>5/16/2021</i>
<i>Marcos A. Devers</i>	<i>16th Essex</i>	<i>5/20/2021</i>
<i>Jeffrey N. Roy</i>	<i>10th Norfolk</i>	<i>5/23/2021</i>
<i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>	<i>5/25/2021</i>
<i>William C. Galvin</i>	<i>6th Norfolk</i>	<i>5/25/2021</i>
<i>Ruth B. Balsler</i>	<i>12th Middlesex</i>	<i>5/25/2021</i>
<i>Tami L. Gouveia</i>	<i>14th Middlesex</i>	<i>6/1/2021</i>
<i>Erika Uytterhoeven</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>	<i>6/1/2021</i>
<i>Patrick M. O'Connor</i>	<i>Plymouth and Norfolk</i>	<i>6/4/2021</i>
<i>Steven G. Xiarhos</i>	<i>5th Barnstable</i>	<i>6/7/2021</i>
<i>Michelle M. DuBois</i>	<i>10th Plymouth</i>	<i>6/21/2021</i>

<i>Patrick Joseph Kearney</i>	<i>4th Plymouth</i>	<i>6/29/2021</i>
<i>Adrian C. Madaro</i>	<i>1st Suffolk</i>	<i>6/30/2021</i>
<i>Lori A. Ehrlich</i>	<i>8th Essex</i>	<i>7/9/2021</i>
<i>David M. Rogers</i>	<i>24th Middlesex</i>	<i>6/11/2021</i>
<i>Nika C. Elugardo</i>	<i>15th Suffolk</i>	<i>7/9/2021</i>
<i>Patricia D. Jehlen</i>	<i>Second Middlesex</i>	<i>7/12/2021</i>
<i>David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf</i>	<i>17th Worcester</i>	<i>7/14/2021</i>
<i>Jonathan D. Zlotnik</i>	<i>2nd Worcester</i>	<i>7/21/2021</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3991**

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By Mr. Hawkins of Attleboro, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of James K. Hawkins and others relative to pesticides. Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court  
(2021-2022)**  
\_\_\_\_\_

An Act relative to pesticides.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1           Whereas, the use of Second Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticides (SGARs) to address  
2 conflicts with commensal rodents has been demonstrated to cause primary, secondary, and, in  
3 some cases, tertiary poisoning in non-target wildlife species, including birds of prey (e.g. eagles,  
4 owls, and hawks).

5           Whereas, research has shown that Second Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticides have a  
6 higher potency than first generation predecessors and when consumed prevent the clotting of  
7 blood and cause impacted species to die from internal bleeding or simple, external lacerations.

8           Whereas, a single feeding of a Second Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticide contains a  
9 lethal dose of poison of which harmful residues will be present and persist in a rodent’s tissues  
10 that can then be passed through the food chain to predators and scavengers who consume the  
11 dead or dying rodents, causing secondary and tertiary poisoning.

12           Whereas, Massachusetts research has demonstrated widespread exposure to Second  
13   Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticides in four species of birds of prey in Massachusetts that  
14   have a dietary dependance on rodents.

15           Whereas, Massachusetts research data indicates that chemical rodenticides, specifically  
16   SGARs, are heavily relied upon as a method of rodent control among Massachusetts PMP  
17   companies.

18           Whereas, data regarding the quantity and type of rodenticides used by pest management  
19   professionals in Massachusetts is not readily available to the public or researchers in an  
20   accessible or quantifiable form or format so that potential linkages to exposure in non-target  
21   species could be better understood.

22           Whereas, while the Environmental Protection Agency has taken steps to reduce  
23   consumer access to Second Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticides, consumers (i.e.  
24   homeowners) are able to obtain them through online vendors; and EPA previously expressed  
25   concern that a variety of factors may preclude consumer adherence to label directions regarding  
26   proper rodenticide

27           application; and a FIFRA scientific advisory panel identified that available reports  
28   demonstrated that residential consumers in general did not read and/or follow label directions, all  
29   factors which could result in unintentional rodenticide exposure.

30           Whereas, a FIFRA scientific advisory panel concluded that helping homeowners more  
31   easily understand how their actions can impact children, pets, and wildlife has the potential of  
32   reducing the off label uses that increase risk of non-target impacts.

33

34 SECTION 1. Subsection (a) of section 6E of Chapter 132B of the General Laws is hereby  
35 amended by:

36 (a) striking “2001” and inserting “2022”;

37 (b) adding the following after the word “each”: “public institution of higher education,  
38 as established by section 5 of chapter 15A,”;

39 (c) adding the following after the word “any”: “public institution of higher education,  
40 as established by section 5 of chapter 15A,”;

41 (d) Adding the following after the words “adopted by the”: “public institution of higher  
42 education, as established by section 5 of chapter 15A,”; and

43 (e) Adding the following after the word “grounds”: “and public lands of the  
44 commonwealth”.

45 SECTION 2. Section 6E of Chapter 132B of the General Laws is hereby amended by  
46 adding at the end thereof, the following new subsections:

47 (c) The department shall implement demonstration and education programs to support  
48 adoption of integrated pest management plans.

49 (d) Prior to providing pest control services, any certified, licensed, or permitted pesticide  
50 applicator shall provide to the customer information describing integrated pest management  
51 strategies. This information shall be provided to the customer in written form and shall have an  
52 acknowledgment of receipt of information form, which must be signed by the customer and the

53 pesticide applicator prior to service. The written acknowledgement form shall include the  
54 following statement from the United States Environmental Protection Agency: “All the  
55 anticoagulants interfere with blood clotting, and death can result from excessive bleeding. The  
56 second-generation anticoagulants are especially hazardous for several reasons. They are highly  
57 toxic, and they persist a long time in body tissues. The second-generation anticoagulants are  
58 more likely to be toxic in a single feeding than earlier products, but since time-to-death is several  
59 days, rodents can feed multiple times before death, leading to carcasses containing residues that  
60 may be many times the lethal dose. Predators or scavengers that feed on those poisoned rodents  
61 may consume enough to suffer harm. Non-target wildlife and pets can be poisoned if they eat  
62 rodent baits, as can predators or scavengers that consume rodents that have eaten certain  
63 poisons.” The pesticide applicator shall retain a copy of the acknowledgement form for a period  
64 of 2 years.

65 SECTION 3. Subsection (a) of section 7A of chapter 132B is hereby amended by adding  
66 at the end the following: “On or before January 31, 2022, said department shall convert the  
67 pesticide use reporting system to an electronic format, and said department shall require reports  
68 to be filed electronically using the ePlace Portal System or similar electronic system.”