



PESTICIDE BILL

An Act to relative to pesticides

Sponsored by Rep. James Hawkins & Sen. Paul Feeney ([H.825](#), [S.487](#))

In March 2023, a beloved female bald eagle nesting in the Mystic Lakes was tragically and unnecessarily poisoned by lethal rodenticides. **This is now the third bald eagle to die from poisoning by lethal rodenticides in Massachusetts in just two years**—underscoring the critical need to ban these poisons as a means of pest control.

In just two short years,
**THREE BALD EAGLES
HAVE BEEN POISONED BY
LETHAL RODENTICIDES**

underscoring the need
for swift action.

Lethal rodenticides, which are widely used, threaten not only raptors, but dogs, cats, and children. Intended to kill rodents by preventing blood clotting, many of these poisons called second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides, or SGARs, are banned for home use by the EPA. SGARs are especially dangerous for wildlife—slow acting, they often have unintended victims when eagles, hawks, and owls eat poisoned prey. This has devastating ecosystem impacts—as natural predators are removed rat populations ironically rebound.



This bill would be a first step towards a total ban on the sale and use of lethal rodenticides—requiring pesticide applicators to report when deadly rodenticides are used on publicly-owned properties, like elementary schools, libraries, and more, and requiring consideration of other pest management options to create a safer environment for all, animals and humans alike.



BY CLOSELY REGULATING THE APPLICATION OF LETHAL RODENTICIDES ON PUBLIC PROPERTIES the pesticide bill will keep these deadly poisons away from sensitive populations, and serve as a model for better pest management approaches on private properties in the future.

QUESTIONS? Contact Jen Ryan, Deputy Director of Advocacy at jryan@crwa.org.