



Hearing on

S. 644/H. 965: An Act restricting the use of rodenticides in the environment

Sponsors: Senator Michael Moore; Representative Jim Hawkins

Toolkit

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1. Logistics about the hearing: when & where

WHEN: Monday, October 27, 2025 at 1pm

WHERE: Room A-2 at the State House and remote

[Directions to the State House](#)

If you are coming to the hearing in person, please allow time for traffic, parking, and going through security. [See here for a map and directions to the State House](#). The least expensive parking option is the garage underneath Boston Common ([see map and rates](#)). Many people also use [SpotHero](#) to help with parking.

Please be aware that parking at the Boston Common requires walking several blocks uphill to the State House. The garage sometimes fills up.

Enter the State House either through the Ashburton Entrance on Bowdoin Street (this entrance is accessible) or the General Hooker Entrance on Beacon Street. When passing through security, you will need to step through a metal detector. We recommend factoring in 10-15 minutes for passing through security (there may be a line).

There will be park rangers inside the entrance who can help direct and directions to Room A-1 from the Ashburton entrance are also available here. Please note also that, in addition to an accessible entrance at Ashburton, the State House also provides full [accessibility support services](#) to anyone who may need them.

If you'd like to get a seat (you may have to wait some time before you are called), we suggest planning to be there at least 15-20 minutes.

2. Options: Written and/or oral testimony

This hearing will be in a hybrid format, with the Chairs physically presiding in the hearing room. You can testify orally, either in person or remotely, and you can also submit written testimony. You can do one or the other, or submit both oral and written testimony. (Your testimony may have more impact if you do both.)

You can see the official hearing notice [here](#). Please see below for information specific to oral and written testimony. Please let us know if you plan to deliver testimony by emailing advocacy@mspca.org. It's helpful to us to know how much support from the public there will be — and we are also more than happy to help you write testimony, practice your oral testimony, or answer any questions at all.

ORAL TESTIMONY (IN PERSON or REMOTE):

To provide oral testimony, whether virtually or in person, you must sign up. Keep an eye on the [hearing notice](#) for additional information closer to the date.

You will receive an email from the Committee one day prior to the hearing, containing important information. Please note that regardless of whether you signed up for in person or remote testimony, the email will contain instructions for remote testimony. If you're testifying in person, you can just ignore that info.

Please note that for oral testimony there is a **time limit of 3 minutes per person**. This session, we have seen this limited to 2 minutes if a lot of people are signed up to testify. The committee takes this time limit seriously and will enforce it. Time yourself at home to make sure you do not go over 3 minutes. If you want to testify on more than one bill at once, that's completely fine, just plan to do so within the 3 minutes. Have a plan in case the time is reduced from 3 minutes.

WRITTEN:

Signing up is *not* required for written testimony. There is usually no formal deadline for submitting written testimony, but we suggest doing it within a week of the hearing. Please email written testimony to: JointCommittee.Environment@malegislature.gov. Don't hesitate to let us know if you want any help!

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please be advised that the **hearing will be broadcast live** on <https://malegislature.gov/Events> and the recording will remain available online. ([This](#) hearing from July provides an example of how it will be broadcast live and archived.).

3. What to expect and tips for oral testimony

WHAT TO EXPECT

The Environment and Natural Resources Committee has 17 members (see below). Not all will be in attendance at the hearing and they may come and go depending on other commitments such as floor votes.

Hearings generally start with testimony from legislators, and any legislators who come in after it has begun will be taken out of turn. The committee chairs will then call the names of people who signed up. When you hear your name, you will go to a large table set up at the front of the room, directly in front of the committee members on the dais. They will greet you and then you can start. There will be an easily visible timer.

Please note that there will likely be many other bills scheduled (see [here](#) for the full list – this will be updated closer to the date), so you will need to wait for your turn. Committee members will often group testimonies by bill or topic and, within that, by supportive and oppositional testimonies. That said, you can't be certain when you'll be called, so please remain present while waiting.

WHAT SHOULD I SAY?

For both oral and written testimony, try to include your unique perspective or story. E.g., you could talk about why these bills matter to you and how it affects the animals you care about.

Following is an outline that works for oral testimony (and can be a guide for written testimony too):

Intro:

- Good afternoon Chair Rausch, Chair Barber, (assuming both are present) and members of the committee.
- Thank you for hearing my testimony.
- My name is [your name] and I live in [your municipality].
- I'm testifying in support of *S. 644/H. 965: An Act restricting the use of rodenticides in the environment*

Body:

- First: One or two talking points. E.g., number of animals affected, public health risks, etc.
- Second: This part of your testimony is the most important. It's what makes it unique to you. When crafting this part, try reflecting on what it is about the issue that motivates you; it's no small thing to take time out of your day to speak to legislators — what drove you? Focus on the aspect(s) of the issue that matter the most to you and why.

Conclusion:

"Thank you for hearing my testimony and for your time and consideration." (They will already know what you have signed up for.)

ORAL TESTIMONY TIPS

- You will have three (3) minutes maximum to speak. It's very important to keep your testimony to that amount of time or less. We recommend shooting for 2 minutes and 45 seconds. Run through your

testimony a couple times to be sure it does not exceed three minutes. You may also want to have a two minute version prepared in case the committee unexpectedly changes the time allocation.

- Check to see if your legislator(s) are on the committee (you can find out who they are here and see if they're on the committee [here](#) — if one or both of them are, that means your voice is all the more influential! You can mention that you're a constituent in your introduction. You can also check ahead of time if they've co-sponsored the bill (check our [Animal Scorecard](#)) and thank them if they have.
- You do NOT need to study the bills like you would for an exam! The Committee does not expect you to be an issue expert. If they ask you a question and you don't know the answer, it's fine to simply say so and that you'll find out and get back to them. Let us know and we can help with follow up.
- Always remain calm and professional, no matter what the "other side" says or does.
- Avoid repetition! If possible, try not to repeat what other advocates have already thoroughly covered. Sometimes that means you'll have to adjust your testimony during the hearing. That can be tricky, but these tips can help:
 - Legislators really appreciate when you explicitly acknowledge that something has already been said — it shows that you've been paying attention. You could do this, for example, by saying: "I want to be mindful of the committee's time so I won't go into detail on [xxx] as that's already been well-covered, but I do want to just emphasize that those [dangers/abuses/etc.] are very alarming to me too." And/or something like, "Learning about [such-and-such], as another advocate has discussed, also deeply impacted me."
 - The unique part of your testimony will of course always be worth saying!
 - If you plan to drill down into a point more than has already been done, that's totally fine since that's bringing in new information.
- Do not worry about your testimony being too short. Toward the end of a long hearing, brief testimonies are quite well-received by the committee. Even if you shorten your testimony to 15 seconds in order to avoid repetition (especially at the end of a long hearing!) it still matters just as much. Simply your presence and your having taken the time to testify before them is impactful.

*In sum, the two most important things are **authenticity about why this matters to you** and **finishing on time!***

4. Written testimony

Even if you give oral testimony, please consider submitting written testimony as well. Signing up is *not* required for written testimony. There is no formal deadline for submitting written testimony, but we suggest doing it within a week of the hearing. Please email written testimony to:

JointCommittee.Environment@malegislature.gov. **Don't hesitate to let us know if you want any help!**

This letter is just a guide — feel free to personalize. There is no minimum or maximum length.

Key information to include:

- Your name, address, and a way you can be contacted
- The name and numbers of the bill(s)
- Why this bill is important to you and any personal/professional experience that you want to mention
- A line or two about what the bill does. This can be taken from the fact sheets above. You do not need to include everything, of course, just maybe a few points about what the aspects of the issue that are most important to you.
- Ask that they report the bills out favorably. (Or, in the case of the [trapping](#) or hunting bills, that they give the bills an unfavorable report.)

October 2025

The Honorable Rebecca Rausch
Senate Chair
State House
Boston, MA 02133

The Honorable Christine Barber
House Chair
State House
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Chair Rausch, Chair Barber, and members of the Committee,

MAKE IT CLEAR WHAT YOU ARE WRITING ON

["I am writing to support S. 644/H. 965: An Act restricting the use of rodenticides in the environment"]

NOTE YOUR REASONS/EXPERIENCE

[this is a good place to talk about your own personal experience, whether it is because of your dog being poisoned, you are a part of a wildlife group, because you care about animals generally, volunteer with animals, etc.]

WHAT THE BILL DOES/WHY YOU THINK IT SHOULD PASS

[Next, you can add a few points about the bill/what the bill does]

THE ASK

[for example "I urge you to report these bills out favorably"].

Respectfully Submitted [or other sign off],

Name

Address

Email or phone - how they can get in contact with you

4. About the bill

[S. 644/H. 965: An Act restricting the use of rodenticides in the environment](#)

Why is this legislation needed:

Anticoagulant Rodenticides (ARs) are a particularly toxic group of poisons used as a form of rodent control. When ingested, ARs prevent the clotting of blood, and cause the animal who ingested it to sustain heavy internal bleeding, eventually causing death. The poison remains in the dead or dying rodent's system for days. These poisons are broken into two categories: first generation known as FGARs (Chlorophacinone, Diphacinonon, and Warfarin) and second generation known as SGARs (Brodifacoum, Bromadiolone Difenacoum, and Difethialone). First-generation anticoagulant rodenticides last for approximately 7 days in an animal's system, but SGARs are more potent and generally last for 4 weeks, making them more dangerous to other animals who ingest poisoned prey.

ARs impact non-targeted pets and wildlife populations, such as birds of prey, who rely on the poisoned rodents as a food source. As a result, the cats and dogs, hawks, eagles, owls, and bobcats who are exposed often suffer the same fatal hemorrhaging as their meal.

While ARs are prohibited for residential consumer purchase in the Commonwealth, commercial use is allowed for licensed pesticide companies.

What would this bill do:

This bill will end the registration and reregistration of anticoagulant rodenticides (ARs), unless deemed necessary for a public health emergency by the Massachusetts Department of agriculture and resources (MDAR). This bill also gives the department the ability to establish a process and standards for the limited use of anticoagulant rodenticides by licensed applicators in public health emergencies.

State Senator Cosponsors:

[Michael O. Moore](#)- Second Worcester

[Paul W. Mark](#)- Berkshire, Hampden, Franklin and
Hampshire

[Joanne M. Comerford](#)- Hampshire, Franklin and
Worcester

[Mark C. Montigny](#)- Second Bristol and Plymouth

[James B. Eldridge](#)- Middlesex and Worcester

[John J. Cronin](#)- Worcester and Middlesex

[Dylan A. Fernandes](#)- Plymouth and Barnstable

[Jacob R. Oliveira](#)- Hampden, Hampshire, and
Worcester

[Edward J. Kennedy](#)- First Middlesex

[Jason M. Lewis](#)- Fifth Middlesex

[Patricia D. Jehlen](#)- Second Middlesex

[Michael J. Barrett](#)- Third Middlesex

[Cindy F. Friedman](#)- Fourth Middlesex

[Bruce E. Tarr](#)- First Essex and Middlesex

[Joan B. Lovely](#)- Second Essex

[Patrick M. O'Connor](#)- First Plymouth and Norfolk

[Sal N. DiDomenico](#)- Middlesex and Suffolk

[Paul R. Feeney](#)- Bristol and Norfolk

[Robyn K. Kennedy](#)- First Worcester

[Pavel M. Payano](#)- First Essex

State Representative Cosponsors:

[James K. Hawkins](#)- 2nd Bristol

[Carmine Lawrence Gentile](#)- 13th Middlesex

[David T. Vieira](#)- 3rd Barnstable

[Steven Owens](#)- 29th Middlesex

[Kristin E. Kassner](#)- 2nd Essex

[Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.](#)- 12th Hampden

[Marc T. Lombardo](#)- 22nd Middlesex

[James Arciero](#)- 2nd Middlesex

[James C. Arena-DeRosa](#)- 8th Middlesex

[Jennifer Balinsky Armini](#)- 8th Essex

[Michelle L. Badger](#)- 1st Plymouth

[Christine P. Barber](#)- 34th Middlesex

[John Barrett, III](#)- 1st Berkshire

[Natalie M. Blais](#)- 1st Franklin

[Simon Cataldo](#)- 14th Middlesex

[Michelle L. Ciccolo](#)- 15th Middlesex

[Mike Connolly](#)- 26th Middlesex

[Manny Cruz](#)- 7th Essex

[Leigh Davis](#)- 3rd Berkshire

[Marjorie C. Decker](#)- 25th Middlesex

[Kip A. Diggs](#)- 2nd Barnstable

[Mindy Domb](#)- 3rd Hampshire

[Kate Donaghue](#)- 19th Worcester

[Daniel M. Donahue](#)- 16th Worcester

[Patricia A. Duffy](#)- 5th Hampden

[Rodney M. Elliott](#)- 16th Middlesex

[Kimberly N. Ferguson](#)- 1st Worcester

[Christopher Richard Flanagan](#)- 1st Barnstable

[William C. Calvin](#)- 6th Norfolk

[Sean Garballey](#)- 23rd Middlesex

[Colleen M. Garry](#)- 36th Middlesex

[John R. Gaskey](#)- 2nd Plymouth

[Carlos González](#)- 10th Hampden

[Kenneth I. Gordon](#)- 21st Middlesex

[Richard M. Haggerty](#)- 30th Middlesex

[Natalie M. Higgins](#)- 4th Worcester

[Kevin G. Honan](#)- 17th Suffolk

[Tara T. Hong](#)- 18th Middlesex

[Vanna Howard](#)- 17th Middlesex

[Steven S. Howitt](#)- 4th Bristol

[Bradley H. Jones, Jr.](#)- 20th Middlesex

[Hannah Kane](#)- 11th Worcester

[Patrick Joseph Kearney](#)- 4th Plymouth

[Sally P. Kerans](#)- 13th Essex

[Michael P. Kushmerek](#)- 3rd Worcester

[David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf](#)- 17th Worcester

[Jack Patrick Lewis](#)- 7th Middlesex

[David Paul Linsky](#)- 5th Middlesex

[Jay D. Livingstone](#)- 8th Suffolk

[Hadley Luddy](#)- 4th Barnstable

[William F. MacGregor](#)- 10th Suffolk

[Adrian C. Madaro](#)- 1st Suffolk

[John J. Marsi](#)- 6th Worcester

[Joseph D. McKenna](#)- 18th Worcester

[Paul McMurtry](#)- 11th Norfolk

[Joan Meschino](#)- 3rd Plymouth

[Thomas W. Moakley](#)- Barnstable, Dukes, and
Nantucket

[Samantha Montaño](#)- 15th Suffolk

[John Francis Moran](#)- 9th Suffolk

[Tackey Chan](#)- 2nd Norfolk

[Tricia Farley-Bouvier](#)- 2nd Berkshire

[John J. Lawn, Jr.](#)- 10th Middlesex

[David K. Muradian, Jr.](#)- 9th Worcester
[Brian W. Murray](#)- 10th Worcester
[Tram T. Nguyen](#)- 18th Essex
[Adrianne Pusateri Ramos](#)- 14th Essex
[Sean Reid](#)- 11th Essex
[David M. Rogers](#)- 24th Middlesex
[John H. Rogers](#)- 12th Norfolk
[Lindsay N. Sabadosa](#)- 1st Hampshire
[Amy Mah Sangiolo](#)- 11th Middlesex
[Aaron L. Saunders](#)- 7th Hampden
[Adam Scanlon](#)- 14th Bristol
[Margaret R. Scarsdale](#)- 1st Middlesex
[Greg Schwartz](#)- 12th Middlesex
[Danillo A. Sena](#)- 37th Middlesex
[Todd M. Smola](#)- 1st Hampden

[Thomas M. Stanley](#)- 9th Middlesex
[Erika Uyterhoeven](#)- 27th Middlesex
[Marcus S. Vaughn](#)- 9th Norfolk
[Tommy Vitolo](#)- 15th Norfolk
[Thomas P. Walsh](#)- 12th Essex
[Susannah M. Whipps](#)- 2nd Franklin
[Steven George Xiarhos](#)- 5th Barnstable
[Jonathan D. Zlotnik](#)- 2nd Worcester
[Dawne Shand](#)- 1st Essex
[David Allen Robertson](#)- 19th Middlesex
[Hannah Bowen](#)- 6th Essex
[Kathleen R. LaNatra](#)- 12th Plymouth
[Judith A. Garcia](#)- 11th Suffolk
[Jessica Ann Giannino](#)- 16th Suffolk
[Richard G. Wells, Jr.](#)- 7th Norfolk
[Frank A. Moran](#)- 17th Essex

5. More Information About the Issue

Could banning some rat poisons lead to better pest control in Mass.?

Published: Feb. 19, 2025, 5:45 a.m.

By [Susannah Sudborough](#) | SSudborough@masslive.com

Over the last few years, animal advocates sought to limit the use of anticoagulant rat poisons due to the dangers they pose to wildlife and pets — even as [Massachusetts cities continue to struggle with rat infestations](#).

While this might appear tone-deaf at first glance, advocates argue that these poisons not only avoid addressing the root problem — they're also toxic to nature's best rat killers.

“Nobody's trying to protect rats. What we don't want is other animals who are uninvolved dying,” said Rep. Jim Hawkins, D-2nd Bristol, who is spearheading efforts to pass a near-total ban on anticoagulant rodenticides.

“We definitely don't want the predators dying because that's counterproductive. You just made more rats — not less rats.”

What are anticoagulant rodenticides (SGARs)?

One of the most common rat poisons used by pest control professionals is second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides, [also known as SGARs](#). The poison interferes with the blood-clotting process — which is essential for healing — and causes fatal internal bleeding.

When a pest control professional is called in to deal with a rodent infestation, they often place bait boxes containing SGARs in and around affected homes and businesses. The bait boxes serve as fatal traps for nearby rodents.

It takes a rat or mouse two days to a week to die after being poisoned by an SGAR — which is by design, said Zak Mertz, executive director of New England Wildlife Centers. SGARs are meant to kill rodents slowly, giving them time to exit a house or business and die elsewhere.

“The thinking is, you want a poison that’s going to kill the rats and the mice but is not going to cause them to die immediately in your walls and cause a smell,” Mertz said.

How SGARs poisons wildlife

One of the biggest problems with SGARs stems from the time it takes for poisoned rodents to die, Mertz said. These mice and rats retreat into the wild but become slow and lethargic as they inch toward death.

“So if you’re a hawk or an owl or a fox or anything that makes your living out of eating these mice and rats, you think you have a free lunch, right? It’s a very easy target,” Mertz said.

The amount of rodenticide necessary to kill a larger predator or scavenger is significantly more than that required to kill a rat or mouse, Mass Audubon Legislative Affairs Director Sam Anderson said. But pest control professionals typically place multiple bait boxes around an area with a rodent infestation, meaning that local wildlife such as hawks, owls and foxes can repeatedly snack on poisoned mice and rats.

As these animals ingest more SGARs second-hand over time, they become progressively more ill from the poison, Mertz said. The fact that SGARs make animals lethargic and slow confounds the problem for predators by making it difficult for them to catch healthy rodents.

A range of barriers make collecting reliable data on the impact of SGARs difficult, advocates said. Even so, [a 2020 Tufts University study](#) of red-tailed hawks found that 100% of the 43 hawks that died at the university’s wildlife clinic in North Grafton tested positive for SGARs. Furthermore, the study determined that 91% of the hawks had more than one SGAR in their system.

Why SGARs are deadly for wildlife

New England Wildlife Centers’ animal hospitals in Weymouth and Barnstable take in between 50 and 100 wild animals that have been poisoned or are believed to have been poisoned by SGARs each year, Mertz said. Many more are never brought in for treatment.

Red-tailed hawks and great horned owls make up most of the hospital's SGAR poisoning patients, but its veterinarians also treat less common raptors, Mertz said. In the spring of 2023, the hospital admitted a bald eagle named MK, who made headlines after he was found on the ground at an Arlington cemetery. The vets tried to save him, but he ultimately died of SGAR poisoning.

If SGARs build up in an animal's body over time, they can become lethal even to bald eagles, Mertz said. Additionally, as these poisons make animals slow and lethargic, the creatures become more susceptible to injury. Such injuries are then exacerbated when the SGARs prevent the animal's blood from clotting, making recovery from even minor wounds difficult.

Animals poisoned by SGARs are often in gruesome condition by the time they're brought to a wildlife hospital, Mertz said. Just over half the animals the hospital treats for rodenticide poisoning recover, and many others are euthanized.

One case that stuck with Mertz was the time the hospital treated three young great-horned owls who were near death due to SGAR poisoning. Only one owl survived, and it was months before its blood began clotting properly.

"In that time, he ate about 2,000 mice. So you can imagine if that owl was never poisoned and was left out there in the environment, the amount of rodent control it would have exerted on that area," he said.

How SGARs poison pets

Like wild animals, pets can suffer SGAR poisoning after eating a poisoned rat, Melissa Ekvall, MSPCA Senior Advocacy Coordinator, said. But more commonly, they become poisoned by a rodenticide after gaining access to a bait box and ingesting the poison directly.

Dogs make up the majority of pets treated for SGAR poisoning by MSPCA's vets, though they've also treated cats, rabbits and rats that have gotten into bait boxes, according to Ekvall.

Oftentimes, this happens when neighbors with pets aren't informed that bait boxes have been set up outside a home or business, Ekvall said. Additionally, if a pet owner is unaware of the danger SGARs pose to their animals, they may ask a pest control professional to set up bait boxes inside their home where their pets can easily access them.

This same scenario can result in small children being poisoned by SGARs, she said. The Environmental Protection Agency estimated in 2010 that U.S. poison control centers receive around 10,000 calls each

year from parents whose children may have ingested a rodenticide, [according to a Scientific American article](#).

What makes SGARs deadly for pets

MSPCA vets estimate that they treat up to 50 pets for SGAR poisoning each year, Ekvall said. The treatment process can take weeks and cost thousands of dollars — especially if the animal isn't brought to a vet soon after ingesting the poison.

This often happens when a pet owner doesn't realize their animal has gained access to a bait box, Ekvall said. They may notice early signs of SGAR poisoning, such as lethargy, bruising, and lack of thirst or appetite, but mistakenly wait and see if the symptoms subside.

Days later, these pet owners are often horrified to find that their beloved animal has developed more serious symptoms, such as bleeding from the mouth or anus, Ekvall said. They rush to the vet but have no idea what caused the problem, leaving vets to treat the animal based on a suspected diagnosis.

This was the case for Murphy, a poodle from Newton that MSPCA vets treated for rodenticide poisoning in 2021, Ekvall said. By the time his owners brought him in, he had lost all function in one side of his body due to a brain bleed, and his platelet count had dropped to zero. His owners spent \$5,000 on veterinary care to save his life, but he ultimately died from a heart attack.

Why SGARs can be ineffective

While killing rodents may seem like a common sense approach to pest control, Anderson and others argue that, in practice, SGARs act more like a Band-Aid than a long-term solution.

This is because, as urban rodentologist Robert Corrigan writes in [Boston's 2024 Rat Action Plan](#), the “No. 1 driver of rat populations in all cities is the food refuse dynamic.”

In other words, if the root cause of a rodent infestation — i.e. access to food waste — isn't addressed, then trapping and killing mice and rats won't solve the problem, advocates argue.

Effective pest control is best achieved through what's known as “integrated pest management,” Anderson said. This strategy focuses on changing one's environment to impede rodents' access to food waste, according to Corrigan's report. SGARs are treated as a last-resort option.

But many pest control companies still use SGARs as a first-line defense against rodent infestations, Anderson said. He believes this is because rat traps “make the customer feel better” — not because they’re effective.

“It’s easier for a pest control professional to put poison out instead of saying, ‘All the poop is over here. We should fill this hole,’” he said.

Pest Control New England — a local industry group — declined a request for comment from MassLive.

A potential solution

Some pest control companies have already moved away from using SGARs on their own, Anderson said. But [bills from state Rep. Hawkins](#) and state [Sen. Mike Moore](#), D-2nd Worcester, could make their use illegal in Massachusetts in most situations.

If passed, the bills would prohibit the use of SGARs except when permitted by a state board in response to a public health crisis. Interested parties would need to apply for such permission and include a rationale for why SGARs are necessary, as well as a plan for ongoing integrated pest management. The permission would also expire after two weeks.

The restriction wouldn’t go into effect until 2027, giving the pest control industry time to adjust to the change, Anderson said. Despite this, advocates expect the industry will voice opposition given its past opposition to similar bills.

But Hawkins and Moore are optimistic that they’ll be able to rally enough support to get the bills passed this legislative session. Public concern about the dangers SGARs pose to pets and wildlife has also grown in recent years, advocates said.

“The populations of raptors and other predator birds had to basically collapse to zero before [the federal government banned DDT](#),” Anderson said. “I really fear we’re repeating that.”

Additional links and news articles about the issue:

- [Bald eagles are America’s national symbol. Let’s stop poisoning them.](#) Boston Globe (editorial). July 3, 2023.
- [‘Particularly devastating’: Bald eagle ‘MK’ succumbs to poisoning after being rescued in Arlington,](#) Boston.com. March 2, 2023.

- [Learn more about rodenticides.](#)

7. Joint Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

Senate Chair: Rebecca L. Rausch

Phone: 617-722-1555

Email: Becca.Rausch@masenate.gov

Norfolk, Worcester and Middlesex - Consisting of the city known as the town of Franklin and the towns of Bellingham, Dover, Medfield, Millis, Needham, Norfolk, Plainville and Wrentham, the town of Milford and the town of Sherborn.

Senate Vice Chair: Dylan A. Fernandes

Phone: 617-722-1330

Email: dylan.fernandes@masenate.gov

Plymouth and Barnstable - Consisting of the towns of Kingston, Pembroke, Plymouth and Plympton Bourne, Falmouth, Mashpee & Sandwich.

House Chair: Christine P. Barber

Phone: 617-722- 2230

Email: Christine.Barber@mahouse.gov

34th Middlesex - Consisting Ward 4, Ward 5, Ward 7 Precincts 1, 2A, and Ward 8 Precinct 2, of the city of Medford, Ward 4 Precincts 1, 2, 3, 4, Ward 6 Precinct 3A, and Ward 7, of the city of Somerville.

House Vice Chair: Simon Cataldo

Phone: 617-722- 2396

Email: Simon.Cataldo@mahouse.gov

14th Middlesex - Consisting Precincts 1, 2, 6, and 7, of the town of Acton, the town of Carlisle, Precincts 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11, of the town of Chelmsford, and Precincts 1, 2, 3A, and 5, of the town of Concord.

Senator: Edward J. Kennedy

Phone: (617) 722-1630

Email: edward.kennedy@masenate.gov

First Middlesex - Consisting of the city of Lowell and the towns of Dracut, Dunstable, Pepperell and Tyngsborough.

Senator: Michael O. Moore

Phone: (617) 722-1485

Email: Michael.Moore@masenate.gov

Second Worcester - Consisting of the city of Worcester, Ward 4 Precincts 1, 2A, 4, 5, 6, Ward 5, Ward 6, Precincts 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, Ward 7 Precinct 5A, Ward 8 Precinct 5, and the towns of Auburn, Grafton, Millbury, Shrewsbury and Westborough.

Senator: Michael F. Rush

Phone: 617-722-1348

Email: Mike.Rush@masenate.gov

Norfolk and Suffolk - Consisting of the city of Boston, ward 18, precincts 9, 10, 16 to 20, inclusive, and 23, ward 19, precincts 10 to 13, inclusive, and ward 20 in the county of Suffolk; and the towns of Dover, Dedham, Needham, precincts D to H, inclusive, Norwood and Westwood.

Senator: Bruce E. Tarr (Ranking Minority)

Phone: (617) 722-1600

Email: Bruce.Tarr@masenate.gov

First Essex and Middlesex - Consisting of the cities of Gloucester and Newburyport and the towns of Boxford, Essex, Georgetown, Groveland, Hamilton, Ipswich, Manchester-by-the-Sea, Middleton, Newbury, North Andover, Precincts 5A, 7, 8, Rockport, Rowley, Salisbury, Topsfield, Wenham and West Newbury; and the town of North Reading.

Representative: Dawne Shand

Phone: 617-722- 2263

Email: Dawne.Shand@mahouse.gov

1st Essex - Consisting of Precincts 2, 3, 4, and 5, of the city of Amesbury, the town of Merrimac, the city of Newburyport, the town of Salisbury.

Representative: Margaret R. Scarsdale

Phone: 617-722- 2210

Email: Margaret.Scarsdale@mahouse.gov

1st Middlesex - Consisting of the towns of Ashby and Dunstable, Precincts 2, 3, of the town of Groton, and the towns of Pepperell and Townsend and Precincts A, B1, C, and D, of the town of Lunenburg.

Representative: Kristin E. Kassner

Phone: (617) 722-2220

Email: Kristin.Kassner@mahouse.gov

2nd Essex - Consisting of the towns of Georgetown, Hamilton, Ipswich, Newbury, and Rowley, and Precinct 1, of the town of Topsfield.

Representative: Jennifer Balinsky Arimini

Phone: (617) 722-2140

Email: Jennifer.Armini@mahouse.gov

8th Essex - Consisting of Ward 3 Precinct 4 and Ward 4 Precinct 3A, 4, of the city of Lynn, and the towns of Marblehead and Swampscott.

Representative: Jonathan D. Zlotnik

Phone: (617) 722-2582

Email: Jon.Zlotnik@mahouse.gov

2nd Worcester - Consisting of the town of Ashburnham, the city of Gardner, and the towns of Templeton and Precincts 2, and 3, of the town of Winchendon.

Representative: Mark D. Sylvia

Phone: 617-722- 2400

Email: Mark.Sylvia@mahouse.gov

10th Bristol - Consisting of Precincts 1, and 2A, of the town of Acushnet, the town of Fairhaven, Ward 1 Precincts A, B, and C1, of the city of New Bedford, and the towns of Marion, Mattapoisett, and Rochester.

Representative: Tara T. Hong

Phone: 617-722-2460

Email: Tara.Hong@mahouse.gov

18th Middlesex - Consisting of Ward 1 Precinct 1A, Ward 4 Precincts 3, 4A, Ward 5 Precinct 1A, Ward 6, Precincts 1, 2, 3A, 4, Ward 7 Precincts 1, 2, 3, 4, Ward 8 Precincts 1, 2, 3, and 4, of the city of Lowell.

Representative: Kenneth P. Sweezey (Ranking Minority)

Phone: 617-722-2305

Email: Ken.Sweezey@mahouse.gov

6th Plymouth - Consisting of the town of Duxbury, Precinct 2, of the town of Halifax, Precincts 2, and 3, of the town of Hanson, Precincts 2A, and 4, of the town of Marshfield, and Precincts 1, 2, 3A, 4, and 5, of the town of Pembroke.

Representative: John R. Gaskey

Phone: 617-722-2060

Email: John.Gaskey@mahouse.gov

2nd Plymouth - Consisting of the town of Carver, Precinct 3, 6, and 7A, of the town of Middleborough, and the town of Wareham.