



October 20, 2014

Adam Lid
Committee Clerk
Los Angeles City Hall
200 N. Spring Street, Room 1060
Los Angeles, CA 90012

via email: Adam.lid@lacity.org

Re: City Council File (CF-13-1580), Ban Use of Rodenticides

Dear Mr. Lid and City Council Members,

I am writing to urge you to help stop the widespread poisoning of California's wildlife by **supporting a ban on the use of rodenticides.**

WildCare is a nonprofit nature education and wildlife rehabilitation center in San Rafael, Marin County. Every year we share the wonders of nature with more than 40,000 school children and rehabilitate nearly 4,000 wild patients from 200 different species in our wildlife rehabilitation hospital. WildCare has been testing our wildlife patients for exposure to rodenticides since 2006, and the evidence is truly shocking; **79.19%** of our wildlife patients tested had significant levels of anticoagulant rat poisons in their systems. California's natural wildlife predators are dealing with the ramifications of these deadly toxins.

This ban must be implemented! The evidence is unequivocal—animals, both wild and domestic, that eat poisoned rodents end up poisoned themselves.

The state of California recently passed AB 2657 which prohibits the use of "second generation" anticoagulant rodenticides in state parks and protected wildlife areas. The dangers of these compounds to wildlife, pets and even children are well known and scientifically documented. In fact, the US Environmental Protection Agency and the California Department of Pesticide Regulation have both taken significant measures to reduce and restrict their use and availability.

Rodenticides cause secondary poisoning of the animals that eat rats and mice, so banning them in the City of Los Angeles only makes sense. Animals like hawks, owls, foxes, coyotes, bobcats and mountain lions like P-22 that actually provide rodent control and keep rodent populations in check are the ones being poisoned. Because use of these rodenticides can lead to illness and diminished reproductive success on the part of these predatory animals, poisoning may actually lead to more rodents!

Please support this ban and use this as an opportunity to move Los Angeles toward more responsible and ethical pesticide management.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kelle Kacmarcik".

Kelle Kacmarcik
Director of Wildlife Solutions and Advocacy