

SUPPORT HB 2030

Neonicotinoid Pesticides; local regulation and notice
Delegate Paul Krizek

Reasons to support House Bill 2030

- Neonicotinoid pesticides (neonics), which effectively target a variety of pests, are in widespread use in Virginia and around the world in part because they are less toxic to vertebrates than common older insecticides.
- They are under scrutiny due to their persistence in the soil, ability to leach into the environment, high water solubility, and potential negative health implications for non-target organisms such as pollinators, including honeybees.
- There is a major concern that neonics play a major contributing role in pollinator declines.
- This bill aims to protect pollinators in our community from outdoor spray, especially hives kept by Virginia suburban beekeepers.
- This bill addresses only outdoor spray, not affecting indoor treatments against pests such as bed bugs and roaches, toward which neonicotinoids are most effective.

HB2030:

- Requires anyone who uses any neonic in residential, business, commercial or industrial areas to give 72 hours notice to every address within 1/2 mile of the area of application, and authorizes VDACS to adopt regulations to enforce the provisions of the bill.
- Authorizes localities to regulate or prohibit the distribution, possession or sale of neonics or other pesticides that the locality deems harmful to pollinators, or regulate or prohibit outdoor use in areas zoned for residential, business, commercial, or industrial use.
- This bill is limited to outdoor spray so as not to affect indoor treatments against pests such as bed bugs and roaches, toward which neonicotinoids are most effective.

Overview

Neonicotinoids, which target several pests in the Homoptera, Coleoptera, and Lepidoptera family, are the most widely used insecticides in the world. They are less toxic to vertebrates than common older insecticides; however, they have been under scrutiny due to their persistence in the soil, ability to leach into the environment, high water solubility, and potential negative health implications for non-target organisms such as pollinators.



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