

January 12, 2026

The Honorable Judy Aron, Chair  
The Honorable Liz Barbour, Vice Chair  
House Committee on Environment and Agriculture  
New Hampshire House of Representatives  
Concord, NH

**Subject: House Bill 1431 – Restricting the Use of Neonicotinoid Pesticides**

Chair Aron, Vice Chair Barbour & Members of the House Committee on Environment and Agriculture,

I am writing on behalf of the Animal Health Institute (AHI) to respectfully request that veterinary health/pet care products be exempt from House Bill 1431, legislation the House Environment and Agriculture Committee will hear tomorrow morning that directs the Department of Agriculture to re-classify neonicotinoid insecticides as restricted use pesticides (RUPs), ban the non-agricultural use of neonicotinoids and their use on state owned property.

AHI is the U.S. trade association for research-based manufacturers of animal health products – the medicines that keep pets, service and zoo animals, and livestock healthy. Animal health companies work to provide veterinarians, food producers, and pet owners with high-quality, effective, and innovative products. Products that could be restricted by HB 1431, including companion animal flea and tick collars and spot-on topicals, have been reviewed and approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Veterinary products containing neonicotinoids have proven to be highly effective in protecting pets from parasites that can cause vector diseases. The EPA review process is thorough in its examination of safety for animals, humans and the environment, and approved products are continually monitored following regulatory approval and marketing. EPA does not designate pet care/veterinary health products as RUPs. The requirements of RUPs, including application by a certified applicator, do not apply to veterinary products. Furthermore, many pet care/veterinary health uses of neonicotinoids are non-agricultural and would be banned by HB 1431.

While 12 states have enacted bills or regulations classifying neonicotinoids as RUP or otherwise restricting their use – including all the other New England states – they all exempt pet care/veterinary products either expressly or through a limited scope. Indeed, as the 2024 legislation restricting the use of neonicotinoids that Washington State enacted noted “Neonicotinoids are less toxic to mammals and vertebrates than older insecticides and have beneficial uses such as those associated with pet care and veterinary treatment....” As such, AHI respectfully asks that you amend HB 1431 to expressly exempt pet care/veterinary health uses of neonicotinoid products from the scope of the legislation.

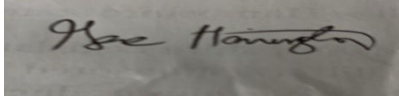
Below is suggested language exempting pet/veterinary health uses from the scope of the bill: (The language is based on Vermont and Rhode Island’s neonicotinoid laws.)

**Pet and veterinary care products used for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating fleas, mites, ticks, heartworms, or other insects or organisms are exempt from RSA 430.60 and RSA 430.61.**

This language will ensure that veterinarians, pet owners, and others in New Hampshire will continue to be able to use valuable pet/veterinarian care products that contain neonicotinoid insecticides to protect various pets and animals from parasites including walking dogs with flea and tick collars in state parks.

I appreciate your time and consideration of AHI's suggested changes to HB 1431 and urge you to contact me at [gharrington@ahi.org](mailto:gharrington@ahi.org) or (202) 549-5934 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A rectangular area containing a handwritten signature in black ink. The signature appears to read "Gene Harrington".

Gene Harrington  
Senior Director, State Affairs  
Animal Health Institute

cc: The Honorable John MacDonald