



**January 13, 2026**

Chairperson Judy Aron  
Vice Chairperson Liz Barbour

House Committee on Environment and Agriculture  
New Hampshire House of Representatives  
107 North Main Street  
Concord, NH 03301

**RE: Testimony on House Bill 1431 - Restricting the use of neonicotinoid pesticides**

Dear Chairperson Aron, Vice Chairperson Barbour, and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the New England Pest Management Association (NEPMA), we want to sincerely thank you for considering the work of pest management professionals in the continual protection of public health. Your leadership in recognizing the vital role of trained and highly regulated pest management experts is deeply appreciated. We firmly believe that leaving pest control to professionals is the best policy for New Hampshire—both to safeguard communities and to uphold environmental integrity. However, we strongly urge two critical amendments to the bill to prevent significant and unintended risks across New Hampshire:

1. Extend the one (1) foot building perimeter to five (5) feet
2. Change mentions of certified applicator to licensed applicator

Our industry provides professional pest management services in numerous areas across New Hampshire, including homes, rental properties, schools, hospitals, senior centers, food processing facilities, grocery stores, and hotels. Neonicotinoids are an incredibly versatile class of insecticides, used to manage several different pests, both indoors and outdoors. For pest control, this includes bed bugs—one of the federally designated pests of significant health importance.<sup>1</sup> In treating bedbug infestations, our professional pest control industry utilizes a variety of non-chemical and chemical tools, including neonicotinoids, available to control them efficiently and effectively.

Our members' applications are low-volume, highly targeted pesticide applications of EPA-approved products that have been deemed safe and effective when used in accordance with the product label. Amending the current one (1) foot perimeter and extending it to five (5) feet gives our members the proper amount of space to follow label directions for applications and treat pests before they enter a structure.

In New Hampshire, anyone who applies registered pesticide products for commercial purposes must be properly licensed by the state's Department of Agriculture, Markets, and Food (DAMF). DAMF collaborates with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) through cooperative agreements to jointly regulate pesticide use under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide,



and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) and the 2017 Certified Pesticide Applicators Rule. This rule required all states to submit an updated Certification and Training (C&T) Plan for EPA approval, which New Hampshire updated plan was approved in March 2023.<sup>ii</sup>

By law, individuals must pass a written exam before obtaining a commercial applicator license. Licensed applicators are required to complete continuing education units (CEUs) throughout the duration of their license, with a minimum of twelve (12) CEUs for each license category held. DAMF regularly reviews and updates the approved CEU programs to ensure their relevance and applicability for commercial applicators. CEUs help licensed applicators expand their knowledge and maintain their ability to safely manage pests without harming human health or the environment.

We remain a resource for legislators on professional pest management issues, and we look forward to future conversations with you on how we can ensure pesticides are regulated through careful, science-driven decisions.

Thank you for your time, and please contact me with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Adam Carace

State Policy Affairs Representative  
New England Pest Management Association

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<sup>i</sup>[U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: List of Pests of Significant Public Health Importance](#)

<sup>ii</sup>[Federal Register: Certification Plans; Notice of Approval Status](#)