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TO: House Environment & Agriculture
DATE: February 11, 2026
BILL: HB 1676
POSITION: OPPOSE

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

The New Hampshire Animal Rights League (NHARL) **opposes House Bill 1676**, which would give the pest control industry **exclusive use of SGARs** (and other rodenticides).

We believe making these poisons “restricted use,” as HB 1676 proposes, would **lead to more wildlife poisoning, not less.**

New Hampshire’s wildlife rehabilitators take in poisoned animals all the time. **Most of these animals die.** Those who get released are often **poisoned again.**



A single owl can eat up to **1,000 rodents a year** — yet poisoned prey turns dinner into a death sentence.



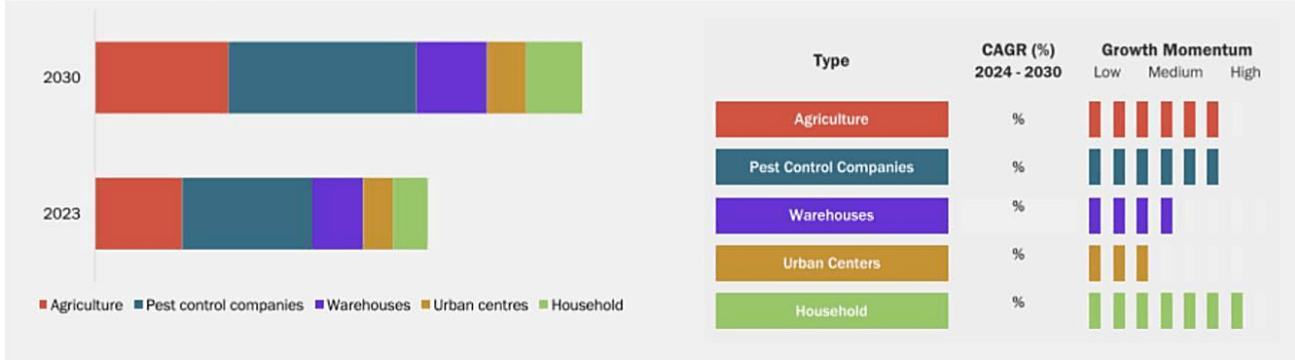
This **family of 3-week-old fox kits all perished** because their mother unknowingly fed them poisoned rodents.



Pets have also been poisoned. Nora, a **boxer puppy, became sick and died** after eating a poisoned rodent.

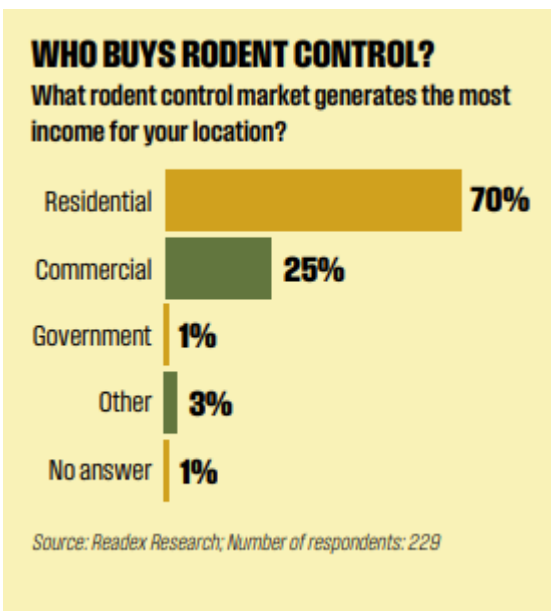
Rodenticide contracts provide a **steady source of income** for pest control companies. As the chart below shows, they are responsible for the majority of poison placements.

Fig.4 Application Snapshot, 2023



Amount of anticoagulant rodenticide used in 2023 by different groups, along with growth potential. Pest Control Companies (blue) use the most. Source: Anticoagulant Rodenticides Market (2025 - 2030) Analysis Report prepared by Grand View Research

The pest control industry’s increasing reliance on rodent control contracts has driven the widespread use of rodenticides. According to Bell Labs: 2023 State of the Rodent Control Market, survey data shows that **70% of the industry’s rodent control market is residential**.



This counters the narrative that homeowner use of SGARs is driving an epidemic of secondary poisoning.

If passed, HB 1676 would hand the industry a monopoly and **expand its residential market further** by shifting rodenticide use from homeowners to pest control operators.

Loss of natural predators — killed off by rodenticide poisons — might actually be considered a *good* thing if one is in the rodent control business.

What pest control companies call “**responsible use**” has led us exactly here — widespread, ongoing outdoor baiting, poisoning the food chain, and decimating New Hampshire wildlife.

Thank you for your consideration.

Joan O’Brien
President