

February 9, 2026

Support of HB 1018 – Banning the use of SGARs (second generation anticoagulant rodenticides)

Members of the Environment and Agriculture Committee,

I am writing to urge you to support House Bill HB 1018, which would responsibly limit consumer access to secondary anticoagulant rodenticides in New Hampshire.

Secondary anticoagulant rodenticides present a well-documented danger to wildlife, pets, and even children. These poisons are designed to remain in an animal's body, which means predators and scavengers—such as fishers, marten, hawks, owls, foxes, and other native species—are frequently poisoned after eating exposed rodents. This secondary poisoning has caused widespread injury and death among wildlife and disrupts the healthy functioning of forests, fields, and food webs.

Predators also suffer the same slow internal bleeding, weakness, starvation, and increased vulnerability as their prey after consuming poisoned rodents. Wildlife rehabilitators regularly encounter these animals, but countless others likely suffer and die unseen. The use of these poisons undermines nature's own rodent control systems. We cannot continue turning our woods and open land into chemical killing grounds. Wildlife deserves better—and so do we.

Our pets are also at serious risk. Accidental exposure, whether through direct ingestion or by consuming poisoned prey, often results in expensive veterinary treatment and, far too often, preventable deaths. These incidents take an emotional and financial toll on New Hampshire families as well as on veterinarians and animal care professionals.

Passing this bill is a practical, science-based step to protect public health, safeguard wildlife, and support safer communities without creating unreasonable burdens for consumers or pest management. HB 1018 takes a balanced approach. It does not eliminate rodent control or leave residents without effective options. Instead, it restricts consumer access to the most hazardous rodenticides while promoting safer alternatives and professional oversight when stronger measures are truly necessary. Similar policies have proven effective in other states and align with current scientific understanding of the impacts of these poisons. Protecting wildlife, keeping pets and families safe, and encouraging responsible pest management are shared goals. This bill represents a sensible, evidence-based step forward.

I respectfully ask you to vote in favor of HB 1018. Thank you for your time, your service, and your commitment to the health and safety of New Hampshire's people, pets, and wildlife.

Respectfully,  
Kerri Murphy

76 North Rd  
Shelburne, NH 03581