

STATE OF NEW YORK

7639

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

May 14, 2019

Introduced by M. of A. ENGLEBRIGHT, SAYEGH, SIMON, EPSTEIN, COOK, MOSLEY, STECK, D'URSO, JACOBSON, CRUZ, THIELE, HYNDMAN, GALEF, JAFFEE -- read once and referred to the Committee on Environmental Conservation

AN ACT to amend the environmental conservation law, in relation to enacting the birds and bees protection act; and providing for the repeal of certain provisions upon expiration thereof

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Short title. This act shall be known and may be cited as
2 the "birds and bees protection act".

3 § 2. Section 33-1301 of the environmental conservation law is amended
4 by adding a new subdivision 12 to read as follows:

5 12. a. Beginning January first, two thousand twenty-one, a manufactur-
6 er shall not sell or offer for sale, any pesticides with the active
7 ingredients clothianidin, imidacloprid, thiamethoxam, dinotefuran,
8 acetamiprid, thiacloprid, nithiazine, or fipronil within the state.

9 b. Beginning July first, two thousand twenty-one, a person shall not
10 sell, offer for sale, or use pesticides with the active ingredients
11 clothianidin, imidacloprid, thiamethoxam, dinotefuran, acetamiprid,
12 thiacloprid, nithiazine, or fipronil within the state.

13 c. By January fifteenth, two thousand twenty-six, the commissioner, in
14 consultation with the commissioner of agriculture and markets, shall
15 report to the legislature on:

16 (1) the latest published and peer-reviewed evidence on whether use of
17 neonicotinoids and fipronil causes unreasonable adverse effects on
18 honeybees, native insect pollinators, and birds; and

19 (2) the impacts, costs, and benefits to resuming the use of such
20 insecticides.

21 d. This subdivision shall not apply to pet care products used to miti-
22 gate fleas, mites, ticks, heartworms, or other animals that are harmful

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 to the health of a domesticated animal; personal care products used to
2 mitigate lice and bedbugs; and, indoor pest control products used to
3 mitigate insects indoors, including ant bait.

4 § 3. Section 49-0203 of the environmental conservation law is amended
5 by adding a new subdivision 5 to read as follows:

6 5. The department shall consider a strategy for the development of
7 pollinator friendly lands including, but not limited to, the planting of
8 vegetation and the use and timing of pesticide applications to protect
9 and promote the health and well-being of pollinators. For the purposes
10 of this subdivision, pollinators shall include birds, bees and other
11 insects that move pollen from one plant to another.

12 § 4. Section 11-0305 of the environmental conservation law is amended
13 by adding three new subdivisions 19, 20 and 21 to read as follows:

14 19. In consultation with the department of state, to develop and
15 distribute to municipal governments a pamphlet on the importance of
16 replacing steady lights on any tower with a flashing light for the
17 purpose of preventing migratory bird mortality. Such pamphlet shall also
18 be made available on the department's and the department of state's
19 websites.

20 20. In consultation with New York state's land grant university, to
21 develop and distribute to all wind turbine applicants and operators in
22 the state information on migratory bird flight routes and timing includ-
23 ing, at a minimum, information on how to minimize negative impacts to
24 migratory birds and their habitats, and current best practices for
25 preventing bird mortalities resulting from impacts with wind turbines.
26 Such information shall also be made available on the department's
27 website.

28 21. In cooperation with the department of transportation, to make
29 recommendations on the species of plantings, mowing, and the use and
30 timing of pesticide applications on right of ways and parkways.

31 § 5. Within twelve months of the effective date of this act, the advi-
32 sory committees established in section 11-2003 of the environmental
33 conservation law shall issue recommendations to the legislature and the
34 state fire prevention and building code council established pursuant to
35 section 374 of the executive law, regarding window bird strike
36 prevention. Such recommendations shall at minimum include:

37 (1) measures that could be taken to identify existing and emerging
38 products, technologies, strategies and concepts which can reduce or
39 eliminate bird mortality from building collisions;

40 (2) criteria for identifying and prioritizing existing buildings and
41 building features which pose the most significant danger for bird colli-
42 sions; and

43 (3) potential funding sources to fund the retrofitting and/or replace-
44 ment of windows.

45 The advisory committee is authorized to hold hearings to facilitate
46 the development of such recommendations.

47 § 6. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall
48 have become a law; provided, however, that subdivision 12 of section
49 33-1301 of the environmental conservation law, as added by section two
50 of this act, shall expire and be deemed repealed July 1, 2026. Effective
51 immediately, the addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regu-
52 lation necessary for the implementation of this act on its effective
53 date are authorized to be made and completed on or before such effective
54 date.