

STATE OF NEW YORK

7532

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

April 22, 2025

Introduced by Sen. HARCKHAM -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Environmental Conservation

AN ACT to amend the environmental conservation law, in relation to enacting the restriction of anticoagulant pesticide transactions for online and retail stores act

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 "restriction of anticoagulant pesticide transactions for online and
3 retail stores act" or "RAPTORS act".

4 § 2. Legislative intent. The legislature hereby finds and declares
5 that it is the policy of this state to ensure that aquatic, terrestrial,
6 and avian wildlife species remain a fully functional component of the
7 ecosystems they inhabit and move through in New York. It is the intent
8 of this act to facilitate this goal by prohibiting the general public
9 from purchasing and utilizing the world's deadliest rodenticides, noto-
10 riously deployed via helicopter to "restore the ecosystem" of entire
11 rat-infested islands and often killing scores of raptors and other birds
12 in the process.

13 This legislation also comes in the wake of Flaco's passing. Flaco, the
14 Eurasian eagle-owl whose escape from the Central Park Zoo and life on
15 the loose captivated New York, had been exposed at the time of his death
16 to four of the seven pesticides this bill restricts. The legislature
17 takes this action to protect all non-target species, not only raptors
18 such as eagles, hawks, and owls, but also the thousands of children and
19 pets exposed to anticoagulants that poison control centers receive calls
20 for each year.

21 § 3. Section 33-1301 of the environmental conservation law is amended
22 by adding a new subdivision 14 to read as follows:

23 14. a. For any person within the state to sell, offer for sale or use,
24 distribute, use, or deploy any pesticide or rodenticide containing a

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

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1 restricted SGAR or FGAR, in any concentration, unless such a purchaser
2 or user has a valid purchase permit or certification identification card
3 pursuant to section 33-0903 of this article or the user is a commercial
4 pesticide technician or commercial pesticide apprentice.

5 b. For any person, including but not limited to, certified pesticide
6 applicators, commercial pesticide technicians, or commercial pesticide
7 apprentices, and government officials, to use a pesticide containing any
8 restricted SGAR or FGAR in, or within five hundred feet of, a wildlife
9 habitat area. The commissioner, in consultation with the commissioner of
10 agriculture and markets, may promulgate rules and regulations to permit
11 the use of pesticides containing SGARs or FGARs by pesticide applicators
12 certified pursuant to section 33-0905 of this article, and commercial
13 pesticide technicians, or commercial pesticide apprentices acting under
14 the instructions and control of a pesticide applicator certified pursu-
15 ant to section 33-0905 of this article, who is available if and when
16 needed, even though such certified pesticide applicator is not phys-
17 ically present at the time and place the pesticide is applied, where
18 such use is not reasonably expected to result in significant adverse
19 effects to non-target wildlife.

20 c. For the purposes of this subdivision the following terms shall have
21 the following meanings:

22 (1) "First-generation anticoagulant rodenticide" or "FGAR" means any
23 pesticide product containing any of the following active ingredients:

24 (i) Diphacinone.

25 (ii) Warfarin.

26 (iii) Chlorophacinone.

27 (2) "Second-generation anticoagulant rodenticide" or "SGAR" means any
28 pesticide product containing any of the following active ingredients:

29 (i) Brodifacoum.

30 (ii) Bromadiolone.

31 (iii) Difenacoum.

32 (iv) Difethialone.

33 (3) "Wildlife habitat area" means any park, wetland, wetland buffer,
34 nature reserve or preserve, or wildlife refuge managed by a state agen-
35 cy, regional government, or quasi-government agency, or by a special
36 district.

37 (4) "Significant adverse effect" means a direct or indirect activity
38 that negatively affects the health or viability of a wildlife population
39 or that damages or threatens wildlife habitats.

40 § 4. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall
41 have become a law. Effective immediately, the addition, amendment and/or
42 repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implementation of
43 this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and completed
44 on or before such effective date.