



Keeping Northwest California wild since 1977

April 7, 2014

Assemblyman Richard Bloom  
California State Legislature  
State Capitol P.O. Box 942849  
Sacramento, CA 94249-0050

**Re: Support Assembly Bill 2657: Environmentally sensitive areas, use of anticoagulants**

Dear Assemblyman Bloom and Legislators:

The Environmental Protection Information Center (EPIC) wishes to offer its support for Assembly Bill 2657, which would prevent dangerous anticoagulant rodenticides from being used in environmentally sensitive areas.

We would like to sincerely thank Assembly Member Bloom and the co-authors of this bill for bringing legislation forward to address the ecological harms associated with the use of “Super Toxic” rat poisons (Brodifacoum, Bromadiolone, Difenacoum, Difethialonein) in wetlands, animal sanctuary, conservancy, state or national park, and any area or habitat that is protected for any endangered or threatened species.

The impact on wildlife from these poisons cannot be understated. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has over 800 pages of incidents of wildlife poisonings (and these are only the animals that have been turned in), while *WildCare*, a wildlife rehab facility in San Rafael, found that over 76 percent of the animals it tested for rat poison in 2013 were contaminated. These residues from second-generation anti-coagulants persist in the environment and contaminate entire food-webs. Scientists are only beginning to understand the legacy effects from these toxins.

EPIC believes that AB 2657 represents an important step forward in the protection of native species in California

EPIC is a non-profit bioregional organization based in Humboldt County, California. EPIC’s mission is to protect and restore ancient forests, watersheds, coastal estuaries, and native species in Northern California. EPIC uses an integrated, science-based approach, combining public education, citizen advocacy, and strategic litigation. We are community and membership-based.

Sincerely,

Rob DiPerna  
California Forest and Wildlife Advocate

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**Environmental Protection Information Center**

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