

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

OPPOSE THE SALE AND PURCHASE OF RAT AND MOUSE POISONS DEEMED AN UNREASONABLE RISK TO CHILDREN, PETS AND WILDLIFE

WHEREAS, in 1998 the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) issued its Reregistration Eligibility Decisions (REDs) for rodenticides, and expressed concern about accidental human exposures to rodenticides as well as risks to wildlife; and

WHEREAS, in September 2004, the US EPA released its Revised Comparative Ecological Assessment for nine Rodenticides, which found more than 300 documented wildlife incidents of exposure of birds and non-target mammals, including endangered species, to rodenticides, in particular those rodenticides that contain the ingredient brodifacoum; and

WHEREAS, brodifacoum residue has been detected in liver tissue of 27 of 32 endangered kit foxes screened for rodenticide residues from 1999 to 2003; and

WHEREAS, the American Association of Poison Control Centers annually receives between 12,000 and 15,000 reports of children under the age of six being exposed to these types of products; and

WHEREAS, in 2008, the US EPA issued its Final Risk Mitigation Decision for Ten Rodenticides, and gave producers until June 2011 to research, develop and register new products that would be safer for children, pets and wildlife; and

WHEREAS, several companies have recently advised US EPA that they do not intend to adopt the new safety measures stipulated in the Final Risk Mitigation Decision, these companies include Reckitt Benckiser Inc. (makers of D-Con, Fleeject, and Mimas rodent control products), Spectrum Group (makers of Hot Shot rodent control products), and Liphatech Inc. (makers of Generation, Maki, and Rozol rodent control products); and

WHEREAS, as a result of the above companies' actions, many of the products that the US EPA considers to pose an unacceptable risk to children, pets and wildlife are still being sold to Berkeley residents.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the Council urges Berkeley businesses to stop the sale of rat and mouse poisons that would be prohibited under the US EPA's Risk Mitigation Decisions for Ten Rodenticides.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Berkeley urges Berkeley residents to avoid buying the above products, and to use less-toxic rodent control methods.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Berkeley urges that all manufacturers of rat and mouse poisons immediately stop manufacture and sale of rat and mouse poisons that do not incorporate the safety measures specified in the US EPA's Risk Mitigation Decisions for Ten Rodenticides.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Berkeley urges the California Department of Pesticide Regulation to cancel or refuse to renew registration of the above products.