The Honorable Gavin Newsom  
Governor, State of California  
State Capitol, Governor’s Office  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 1788 (Bloom) Pesticides: use of second generation anticoagulant rodenticides  
City of Beverly Hills – Request for Signature

Dear Governor Newsom,

On behalf of the City of Beverly Hills, I am pleased to write to you in SUPPORT of AB 1788 (Bloom) and respectfully request you SIGN this bill when it comes before your desk. This bill would prohibit the use of second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides (SGARs) statewide until the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) certifies specified measures have been taken to evaluate, restrict, and only use SGARs when necessary.

Most rodenticides used today are anticoagulants, either first or second generation, that interfere with blood clotting and cause death from excessive bleeding. These rodenticides typically take between four days and two weeks after a rodent ingests them to cause death. While rodenticides are designed to kill rodents, ingestion of the deceased or contaminated rodent, ingestion by another non-targeted mammal, or contact with the rodenticide can have the same effect on other mammals.

Non-targeted wildlife routinely comes into contact with these chemicals either directly or indirectly by ingesting a rodent that has ingested these anticoagulants. A 2018 analysis of 11 wildlife studies showed that more than 85 percent of California mountain lions, bobcats, and fish tested positive for rodenticides. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife’s database of mountain lion deaths reveals anticoagulant rodenticides were found in the livers of 63 out of 68 deceased mountain lions between 2015 and 2016.

Rodenticides also pose a serious public health threat to children. Between 1999 and 2009, the American Association of Poison Control Centers received reports annually that approximately 17,000 humans were exposed to rodenticides. It is estimated that 15,000 of those exposures involved children younger than six.

AB 1788 (Bloom) is an important step forward in protecting our children and wildlife by banning the use of second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides throughout the state unless their use has been deemed necessary by DPR. For these reasons, the City of Beverly Hills is pleased to SUPPORT AB 1788 (Bloom).

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lester J. Friedman  
Mayor, City of Beverly Hills

cc: The Honorable Richard Bloom, 50th Assembly District  
The Honorable Ben Allen, 26th Senate District  
Andrew K. Antwih, Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange