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## **OLR Bill Analysis**

### **sSB 962**

#### ***AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE OF CERTAIN RODENTICIDES.***

#### **SUMMARY**

This bill prohibits, beginning October 1, 2023, the sale or distribution of “second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides” (i.e., pesticide products containing brodifacoum, bromadiolone, difenacoum, or difethialone, see BACKGROUND). The ban includes any sale or distribution through the Internet. The bill subjects violators of the ban to a civil penalty of up to \$5,000 per violation by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) commissioner.

The bill also requires, by January 1, 2024, the DEEP commissioner to classify all second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides as “restricted use” pesticides, meaning that they may cause unreasonable adverse environmental effects. By law, this classification requires these pesticides to be applied only by a certified applicator, or under his or her direct supervision, and subject to other restrictions the commissioner imposes.

The bill allows the DEEP commissioner to adopt regulations to ensure that continued use of these pesticides is not reasonably expected to cause significant adverse effects to nontarget wildlife. If adopted, the regulations must include provisions on using the pesticides if it is necessary to eradicate invasive rodent populations to protect threatened or endangered species or their habitats.

Lastly, the bill requires, by January 1, 2025, the DEEP commissioner to report to the Environment Committee on the potential implications of applying existing statutory and regulatory restrictions and licensing requirements on second-generation anticoagulant rodenticide use. The report must include (1) an analysis of the consistency of applying the

restrictions and requirements with federal law; (2) potential effects, including improved raptor health and expenses and delays that the changes may have on public health and agriculture in Connecticut; and (3) required administrative resources to oversee the restrictions.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

## **BACKGROUND**

### ***Second-Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticide***

Most rodenticides are anticoagulant compounds that interfere with blood clotting and cause death from excessive bleeding. Second-generation anticoagulants were developed to control rodents that are resistant to first-generation anticoagulants. These pesticides are more likely to be effective after a single feeding and may remain in animal tissue longer than first-generation products. They are registered only for the commercial and structural pest control markets and are currently under federal Environmental Protection Agency registration review.

## **COMMITTEE ACTION**

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 32    Nay 0    (03/10/2023)